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Delegations Listen

[illegible] [Editorial Report] Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic at 1310 GMT on 11 March begins a live relay of the opening session of the Jerusalem Committee at Marrakech Municipal Hall. At 1317 GMT King Hassan II, who is to chair the session, enters the hall.

The announcer says that among those attending are members of the Moroccan government, members of the diplomatic corps, the city's notables, the president of the Supreme Council and the deputy speaker of the chamber of deputies as the speaker is absent. The delegations taking part represent Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Guinea, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine, Senegal, Sudan, Syria, Libya, the General Secretariat of the Islamic Congress and the host country.

King Hassan Address

[illegible] Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1329 GMT 11 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Address by King Hassan II at the opening session of the Jerusalem Committee in Marrakech--live]

[Excerpt] [illegible] [word indistinct] as chairman of your respected committee, I deem it my duty to address myself to his holiness. In fact, we wrote to him and sent our message through the secretary of state for cultural affairs. He delivered the letter and proposed clarifications that we then ordered him to make to his holiness. When our messenger came back he brought the good news that he met with understanding, open-mindedness and good will. Effectively, his holiness clearly showed this when he delivered his speech at the United Nations.

As for the second important event, it was the resolution issued by the Security Council last week. I have read the resolution from the beginning to the end numerous times. I found it a well formulated, clear resolution that left no room for maneuvers in connection with its interpretation or application, and this was with regard to holy Jerusalem as well as the Arab occupied territories. This is indeed a unique victory. God willing, it will not be the sole one.

If some circles overshadowed the voting of the Security Council as to the interpretations or [illegible] by the U.S. administration, these comments and these interpretations do not have at all the essence of the issue. The resolution--morally, materially, in depth and in form--was formulated, worded, accepted and unanimously voted for, including the United States. We have seen that this state, which knew its greatness in ethics before materialism, [word indistinct]. Everybody is aware of the outcast of the U.S. President's messages to all the states and in particular to Morocco. This [word indistinct] state while under the yoke of colonialism admitted that it had no strength or influence or material or army, but it had good-will and ethics which were built on unification and on faith and it hoped that one day it would be able to show gratitude to those who deserved it. My hope, therefore, is that the United States will look back at its past and analyze its present so that it can see, [illegible] President Carter himself, that spiritual values are more powerful than atom bombs.

The second [illegible], that is, the statements which Premier President Giscard d'Estaing made when he visited Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. He stressed--and this was the first time he heard such a thing from the head of state of a west European country--that the Palestinian people have the right to determine their own fate and that the PLO was among those who were being addressed. Yes, this statement can be [words indistinct] without the 1974 Rabat Summit Conference. But I personally believe that this step was a daring step, a giant step which carried within its folds all the historic consequences that will follow and solidarities within western Europe or elsewhere.

The attitude of the United States in supporting the Security Council resolution condemning Israel's settlement policy made the best impression in all quarters of the world. This resolution created a wave of hope of standing this great power to the side of international law and right. The resolution stipulated for the first time the need to remove the Israeli settlements from all Arab territories which were been occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem. But all those hopes were shattered when the United States retracted its position after only a short while.

The issues are explained in the basic regulations of both the committee and the fund. They are issues which will exist as long as Palestine remains unliberated, as long as Jerusalem remains occupied and as long as the holy al-Aqsa Mosque and the Ibrahimi sacred place remain prisoners in the hands of the Israeli enemy.

The committee will study, with your guidance, more support for the steadfastness of the struggling Palestinian people and also more measures to prevent the judaization of Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied territory of Palestine. In quest of its liberation from treacherous Zionism, I am confident that the day will come when the secretariat of the Islamic Congress Organization will be moved to its final headquarters in holy Jerusalem. Only then will we be able to realize our dear aspiration, the aspiration which was expressed by the late martyr King Faysal ibn al-Aziz: to perform prayers in al-Aqsa Mosque. The first of the two qiblahs and third most venerated of the holy places, that is surely no great matter for God [Koran reference]. Peace be with you.

[ID Representative's address

[Ability] [what] [unsatisfactory] service in Arabic [DET] [1] Mar 80 p 2

[Address by PLO delegate Abd al-Muhsin Abu Maytar at the opening session of the Jerusalem Committee in Marrakesh--live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your majesty, your highness, heads of delegations: We are pleased to see the second conference of the Jerusalem Committee held in Marrakesh, the historic capital of the fraternal Kingdom of Morocco.

We are pleased to convey greetings of the Palestinian revolution, the Palestinian rajahidin and leadership to the brothers, peoples and leaders of the Islamic world. We are also pleased to voice thanks to our Morocco, its king, government and people for the efforts, support and help extended to Palestine, the homeland, the people, the cause and holy places [words indistinct].

As stressed by the secretary general, the parties to the Camp David agreements continue their plotting against the issue of Palestine and holy Jerusalem. Despite complete condemnation of these agreements at the Arab, Islamic and international levels, we see the parties to these agreements continue their flouting of international legitimacy and the world public. The normalization of relations between the Zionist enemy and the ruling regime in Egypt, the hoisting of the Israeli flag in the Egyptian capital, the turning of the Sinai of al-Wafd [founder of Sinai] from a base for Arab, Islamic and African struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism and the enemies of Islam, into a capital with a diminished will, opened to economic and cultural invasion of the Zionist enemy and available for serving the plans of the enemies of Islam and Muslims politically and militarily in the Middle East and Africa--all this is a stepping up of the imperialist-Zionist assault against the Arabs and the Muslims in general and against Palestinians, their cause, people, rights and holy places in particular. The key of the normalization of relations should be regarded as a key of mourning in all parts of the Islamic world.

The conference of the ministers of waqf and Islamic affairs stressed the need for Muslim to rely on the Islamic Shari'ah [law] in all their legislation. It also emphasized the laying down of an Islamic charter on which governments and peoples would get together in an endeavor to enforce the Islamic Shari'ah in all aspects of life. The conference stressed the need for the issuing of a declaration from all the Arab States to consider the holy Koran the regime of the Prophet Muhammad among the Arab main groups of the Umma [nation] and sharing Shari'ah rules of government regarding right and wrong] as the basis of all laws and regulations.

The conference of the ministers of waqf and Islamic affairs expressed support for the resolutions of the conference of Islamic States' foreign ministers in Islamabad regarding the condemnation of the Soviet communist invasion of Afghanistan. The conference called on the Islamic States to endeavor to implement these resolutions and to support and back the Afghan mujahedin.

The conference urged Arab and Islamic states to call the anti-Islamic life in the Arab and Islamic countries. The conference also considered the spreading of communism to be a heresy, subversion of Shari'ah ideals and moral values and a clear opposition to the Islamic Shari'ah.

The second conference of the ministers of waqf and Islamic affairs called on the governments and peoples of the Islamic states to support the struggle of the Somali Arab people and the Islamic forces in the Horn of Africa for self-determination and to help them to fight against the continuous Soviet invasion of Africa.

The conference also called for support for the Somali refugees and the refugees of Eritrea. The conference condemned the Ethiopian aggression, backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba, against the people of Somalia. It called for the immediate withdrawal of the Soviet and Cuban forces from western Somalia and from the Horn of Africa region.

The conference decided to suspend Egypt's membership in the conference of the ministers of waqf and Islamic affairs until the Egyptian regime returns to the Islamic rank and suspends its dealings with the Zionist enemy and abandons the camp David agreements.

The conference of the ministers of waqf and Islamic affairs called for the Arab language to be considered the official and basic language in all the Islamic states.

The conference also decided that the year 1400 A.H. should be considered the year of publishing the holy Koran throughout the Islamic world whereby by the end of this year 10 million copies of the holy Koran would have been printed and distributed throughout the Islamic world.

The conference decided to send a cable of thanks to His Majesty King Khalid Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and to consider the message which he addressed to the conference a constitution for the business of the conference and the number one document in view of the guidance and planning it contains for the Islamic line of action.

The conference also decided to send a similar cable of thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister.

The conference agreed to hold its next session in Jordan at the same time next year.

At the concluding session of the conference, Sayyid Muhammad 'Ali al-Sargan, secretary general of the Muslim World League, delivered a speech in which he described the resolutions and recommendations of the conference "as a true and thoughtful embodiment of vigilant Islamic thinking toward the challenges, problems and conspiracies facing the Islamic world."

[illegible] 11 Mar 92 [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

[illegible] [illegible] ARABIAN PENINSULA

The meeting was attended by the under secretary of the foreign ministry, Saadi Abd al-Latif as-Saadi, the Kuwaiti ambassador to London, Shaykh Salim Abd al-Aziz as-Sabah, and the British ambassador to Kuwait, John Moberly.

Following the meeting, Abd al-Aziz Hussayn stated that they discussed the Middle East question and the latest developments following the Kuwaiti-French joint communique issued on the visit of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to Kuwait and the subsequent European support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. He said that during the meeting the two sides discussed the situation in Afghanistan. The British minister of state explained his and his government's attitude in this connection and in return he heard Kuwait's point of view on the issue.

GOVERNMENT DENIES PLANS TO ACQUIRE FRENCH NUCLEAR REACTOR

[2001]50 Kuwait KUNA in English 1131 GMT 5 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 5 (KUNA)--Kuwait denied Lebanese reports of attempts to acquire nuclear reactors from France. Foreign Ministry under secretary Saadi al-Abdallah told al-Anba' newspaper that Kuwait never thought of getting a nuclear reactor from any quarter for many reasons and that this issue had not been discussed during the recent visit to Kuwait by the French president Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Dr al-Abdallah admitted that the transfer of French technology to Kuwait was raised during the French-Kuwaiti talks and that the issue could be subject for further discussion by specialists from both countries.

Al-Abdallah added that Kuwait had thought, years ago, of obtaining a nuclear station for power generation but the government dropped the idea because of the risks involved [words indistinct] operation.

The foreign Ministry under secretary was commenting on a report by the Paris-based al-Watan al-Arabi magazine which said that a Kuwaiti team had arrived in the French capital to complement technical consultations on an agreement reached between the French president and the emir of Kuwait. According to the agreement, the magazine said, France will build a nuclear reactor in Kuwait to be used for water desalination and power generation. The under secretary described the magazine report as baseless.

FOREIGN STANCE SAID TO BE ATTEMPT TO PULL ARABS 'CLOSER TO CAMP DAVID'

[2]21000 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 21 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Al-Anba' today casts doubt on the real aims of the European change of attitude toward the Palestinian question.

The newspaper says French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who ended visiting Kuwait and Lebanon during his recent tour of the region, was trying to insure oil supplies for his country in return for a great deal of talk in an American tone. It explains that Europe is still linked to the American solution and points out that the French, British and Italian statements are an attempt to pull the Arab stance closer to Camp David.

[illegible]

The newspaper underlines that all European statements and declarations call for Israel's security to be assured and to recognize it without including in the same equation the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and establishment of their own state on the occupied land. It stresses that the European effort concentrates on achieving what the United States and the Camp David agreements failed to achieve, namely the extraction of a Palestinian recognition of the legitimacy of the Israeli state in Palestine.

IRAQ

PLO OFFICIAL HOPES NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN IRAQ, PERU

LD091256 Kuwait KUNA in English 1140 GMT 9 Mar 88 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 9 (KUNA)--A leading member in an anti-Iraqi regime organization denied any mediation attempts in his group's behalf between Iraq and its Marxist neighbor Peru Iraq.

Member of the executive committee of the regular front for the liberation of Iraq, Jibril al-Shalli [as-Sa'ka], told the paper the PLO did not participate in efforts exerted by Kuwait and Syria Iraq to reconcile the two countries. He said the Iraqi-based front will continue its struggle against the Iraqi regime until it pushes all foreign bases out of Iraq, restores public freedom, ensures the release of all political prisoners and follows an Arab strategy in accordance with the Arab cause.

Jibril said the front was confronted with military difficulties in its struggle that forced it to withdraw from the western region. But, he added according to the paper in its report from Aden, this withdraw is temporary.

The Iraqi government declared at the end of 1987 that it succeeded in destroying the front in cooperation with Iranian troops sent by the former Iran of Iran.

IRAN

'ALI AKBAR MUHAMMAD [illegible] DOCKING, CONCERNS U.S. FLEET

LD111917 Tehran Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Mar 88 LD/FL

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Akbar Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has stressed Democratic Yemen's rejection of anything that runs counter to its political and social progress. He said that those who were suffering from irrelevance and who were depositing millions of dinars in banks throughout the world should realize that we would not sell our nonaligned [word indistinct] because we have reached the road to freedom and our country's social progress with our [words indistinct] and bathed it with the blood of our martyrs. This made us appreciate the true greatness of the Yemeni people's achievements.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said this at a mass rally held in the town of Radfan, the capital of Lawdar Province, in the Governorate of Aden, during a visit he is making to the island to familiarize himself with conditions there.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed Democratic Yemen's strong condemnation of the movements of the U.S. naval fleet in the Indian Ocean under the pretext of maintaining peace and stability.

[illegible] [illegible]

He said that during his visit he would be discussing with provincial officials all aspects of the island's development and the living conditions of the inhabitants. It is hoped that special measures would be taken, and directives issued, to implement projects earmarked for the province. He said the party and government would continue to give special attention to the island and to improve its living, educational and cultural standards and the services offered on the island.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[Summary] Supreme People's Council President Saleem 'Ali al-Rubay' Amir'il has issued a Presidium decree dated [illegible] March 1990, [illegible] administrative divisions and the names of administrative units in the republic. The decree divides the republic into six governorates, the names and capitals of which are as follows:

Governorate	Capital
Aden	Aden
Tikrah	Al-Ghayran
Lajrah	Lajlajah
Hilwan	Iraq
Hadramawt	Sayhut
Al-Mahrah	Al-Ghaydan

Aden Governorate is divided into two provinces: Lirah, Al-'Ittan, Ash-Shaykh 'Uthman and Khur Maksar. Lirah Province consists of Crater and Ghurmakkar Districts; Ash-Shaykh 'Uthman Province comprises Ash-Shaykh 'Uthman and Little Aden Districts; Al-'Ittan Province consists of Al-Buraiqah, Muruwah and Al-Khalilah District; Khur Maksar Province consists of Madinat ash-Sha'b and Khur Maksar Districts.

Tikrah Governorate is divided into four provinces: Zabid, Al-Mukha, Dhubab and [illegible] Provinces. Zabid Province consists of Al-Qahirah, Hayjarah, Kirsa, [illegible] Al-Mawza' and Al-Suhaybi Districts. Dhubab Province consists of Al-Mukhayra, Al-Wazi'iyah, Ash-Shaqirah and Dhubab Districts; Al-Mukha Province consists of Al-Mukha, Ash-Shu'ayb, Al-Hawaya and Al-Asarah Districts; [illegible] Province consists of [illegible], Al-Khadi and Tawr Districts.

Lajrah Governorate is divided into four provinces: Lawr, Tuwar and Radfan. Lawr Province consists of Lawr, Ghamr and [illegible] Districts; Tuwar Province consists of Tuwar, Al-Milah and Habilayn Districts; Radfan Province consists of Radfan, Al-Qara'ish and Jabanah Districts.

Hilwan Governorate is divided into four provinces: Iraq, Sayhan, Sayhan Aswad Provinces. Iraq Province consists of Iraq, Khabb, Asal, Sahbah, Salil and Nawa Districts; Sayhan Province consists of Al-Qiya, Sayhan and Qabr Districts; Sayhan Province consists of Sayhan, Sadan and Ar-Rawdah Districts; Aswad Province consists of Aswad, Jardan, Dahar and Milh Districts.

Hadramawt Governorate is divided into eight provinces: Sayhut, Ash-Shihr, Sa'ir, Sayun, Al-Qatn, Tarayam, Thamud and Al-Abr.

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[illegible] Province consists of Hawalli, Sayl Kabir and Jahra Districts; Ash-Shihr Province consist of Ash-Shihr, Al-Mis-al-Hamr, Ar-Rayan-as-Sayar, and Sayl Ash Shuman Districts; Ad-Dir Province consists of Al-Jawf, Ar-Rawdatayn and Al'Aqiq Districts; Rayan Province consists of Rayan, Darin, Al-Hibr, Ash and As-Sawm Districts; Al-Qatn Province consists of Al-Qatn, Wadi Barr, Shuqra and Wadi Hadhramawt Districts; Shuqra Province consists of Shuqra, Wadi Al-Ayn, Wadi Amd and Dif Districts; Tamud Province consists of Tamud, Khubat, Al-Qaff and Bayar Districts; Al-Abr Province consists of Al-Abr, Bajr-as-Sayar, and Khamsan Districts.

Al-Khaymah Governorate is divided into four provinces: Al-Khaymah, Rafsah, Ibsah and Wadi Provinces. Al-Khaymah Province consists of Al-Khaymah, Tarnah, Al-Manar and Shaqrah Districts; Rafsah Province consists of Rafsah, Ibsah and Al-Qalamah Districts; Ibsah Province consists of Ibsah and Khamsah Districts; Wadi Province consists of Wadi District [as heard]

QATAR

[illegible] VISIT, HOLDS TALKS

Arrival Reported

[illegible] in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Mar 90 JN

[Excerpt] Doha, 10 March--Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre arrived in Doha from Aqaba at noon today on a 1-day official visit to Qatar. During the visit he will hold talks with the emir of Qatar, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah bin Hamad Al Thani, on the latest development in the Middle East issue, the situation in the African Horn and bilateral relations.

The Somali president was met at Doha International Airport by the emir of Qatar and by top civilian and military officials.

Meeting With Emir

[illegible] GMT 10 Mar 90 JN

[Text] Doha, 10 March--Official Qatari-Somali talks began here this evening under the Highness Shaykh Khalifah bin Hamad Al Thani and President Muhammad Siad Barre. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and the means for their development in all spheres, the current Arab and international situation and other issues of mutual interest, particularly the situation in the Horn of Africa.

On the Qatari side, the talks were attended by Ahmad bin Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information. On the Somali side, the talks were attended by Ambassador Jama Barre, minister of foreign affairs, and Muhammad 'Ali Samantar, minister of state for presidential affairs.

Departure for Saudi Arabia

[illegible] GMT 11 Mar 90 JN

[Text] Doha, 11 March--Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre left Doha this morning, heading for Saudi Arabia after a 1-day visit to Qatar.

[illegible] ARABIAN PENINSULA

During his visit, the Somali president will talks with the emir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al-Thani that dealt with the Middle East issue, the Horn of Africa and bilateral relations.

[illegible] OIL POLICY, FOREIGN TENANT

[illegible] Kuwait KUNA [illegible] GMT 11 Mar 90 JE

[Excerpts] Kuwait--Kuwaiti finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah al-Thaqi has called on the Arab information media to put greater stress on the importance of Arab oil. He asserted that the Arab nation is currently in need of such a role to face the U.S. and Zionist media campaigns to impose satre against the Arab invasion. The minister also called on the Arab media to put forth greater efforts to reveal the hidden intentions behind the organized campaigns against the Arab nation.

In an interview published today in the Arabi magazine AL-HAFT AL-'ARABI [oil and the world] Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed his belief that oil prices should be continuously and gradually revised, taking into account the huge profits international oil companies are making at the expense of OPEC.

The Kuwaiti minister said the dollar is still the best currency for oil deals since it yields the best interest, but he pointed out that if this interest decreases there will be an alternative, although he did not mention which currency will be the alternative.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz stressed the importance of agreement on a unified oil price, saying that this would be to the benefit of the OPEC states. He expressed his hope that this agreement would be reached during the OPEC meeting next June.

In threats of the occupation of oil fields, the Kuwaiti minister said that these threats are false dreams and are an aspect of the psychological warfare against the Arabs. He asserted that the Arab nation has enough capabilities to protect itself against such threats.

SAUDI ARABIA

SOMALI PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR TALKS 11 MAR

[illegible] Riyadh SPA in Arabic [illegible] GMT 11 Mar 90 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--His excellency the president of Somalia, Muhammad Siad Barre, arrived in Riyadh at 1225 for a visit to the kingdom. His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, headed his excellency's welcomers at the airport.

His excellency the guest is accompanied by a delegation which includes Foreign Minister Abdurrahman Jama Barre, [illegible] Ali Khaire, minister for the president for political affairs, and a number of senior Somali officials.

Visits King

[illegible] Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1950 GMT 11 Mar 90 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Excellency the President of Somalia Muhamed Siad Barre this afternoon paid a visit to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at the royal palace in al-Ma'dhar.

The visit took place in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers; His Royal Highness Prince Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Second Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Commander of the National Guard; and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Minister of Defense and Aviation.

KING SAUDI STRESSES PALESTINE AS PROBLEM OF ARABS

[Excerpts] Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Mar 82 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has confirmed that the problem of Jerusalem is the main problem of Arabs and Muslims. His Majesty said, The passage of days in relation to this problem only makes us closer to it; it is a burning flame embodied in our souls. Jerusalem's occupation is a deep wound bleeding in our hearts and souls.

His Majesty confirmed in a speech delivered in his name by Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin 'Abd al-Wahid, minister of pilgrimage affairs and waqf, at the start of the meetings of the second conference of the ministers of waqf and Islamic affairs this evening in Mecca, that Jerusalem has been an Arab land since the dawn of history. His Majesty said: We are determined to recover it and continue to pursue its recovery together with our beloved land, Palestine. He said: This, however, cannot be achieved by talking about it or by talking about peace, but through patience and sound planning and by efforts and jihad, and above all through unity of the word and the closing of ranks.

His Majesty said in his speech: These days we have achieved a victory by winning many countries and moderate leaders to our cause, and we find sympathies with our just demands. His Majesty called for the problem of Jerusalem to remain on the conscience of the Islamic nation, feeding it to our sons and grandchildren until victory, God willing. His Majesty expressed the hope that the hour of victory would come so as to recover Jerusalem and return it to us. He said that our message in this country stems from the message of its founder, His Majesty King 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God have mercy on him, and whose banner was carried by the martyr of Islamic solidarity, Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, whose most cherished wish was to pray in Jerusalem, but he met his end before fulfilling this wish. We continue along the same road and our Jerusalem and Palestine shall not be lost while there is a living person among us.

His Majesty pointed to the tragedies and hard times the Islamic nation is living at present as a result of its weakness, lack of unity and languish. His Majesty said that these tragedies and testing times afflicting Muslim countries everywhere--a result of the increased designs on the resources of our nation and the (liberating) over its honor because its sons are considered weak and capable of being subdued--cannot be confronted by aspirations and dreams, nor by talk and words, and that we must look for the cause. His Majesty confirmed the need for cooperation and unity of ranks among the Arab and Islamic nations in order to face the dangers being hatched against them. His Majesty said: We as an Islamic nation should feel that we are a complete entity, with a strong economy and rich with money and men. His Majesty called for finding out our secret weakness secret and what tempts others to look on us with greed. His Majesty confirmed that the Islamic nation has no other strength other than adherence to Islam and interest in its implementation in all our religious affairs.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] 12 Mar 80 [illegible] ARABIAN PENINSULA

It is clear that the American diplomat is trying to indirectly treat the feeling of disappointment in the Arab world as a result of the U.S. administration's attempt to disavow the U.S. vote at the Security Council in support of the resolution condemning Israel's continued establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territories. But such a statement by Mr Saunders, at this time in particular, seems ineffective because the effect of the administration's attempt to disavow the vote of its representative at the Security Council exceeds greatly in scope any attempt by an American official who is not at the level of U.S. President Carter and who lacks the same clarity in backtracking the decision, since U.S. relations with the Arab world are extremely important to both sides.

Thus dealing with the matter should rise to the presidential level because the Arabs have repeatedly said that the American attitude should be examined when dealing with the crisis of the Arab-Israeli conflict. And any deviation in this dealing from the line of just understanding of the Arab rights is the reason behind the Israeli intransigence. Lately even the American attitude toward the Security Council resolution was not sufficient to calm down Israeli fears of a change in Washington's attitude. Washington knows that the Israelis always demand everything without giving anything. This is against the nature of things in ordinary matters, and even more if the matter concerns Israel's occupation of others' land and its insistence to bargain over a thing that it does not own.

It is clear that Israel's feeling of discomfort is due to two causes: First, the Arab nation refuses to accept Israeli demands from a position of strength despite Israel's success in winning over one of the Arab countries and Israel's conviction that this does not meet its demand to swallow Arab rights. And second, the French declaration of its recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, a matter which increased Israel's fears and made it concentrate on Washington at this critical stage in order to further embarrass the U.S. administration which is trying to find a way out of this state of flux.

UAE

[illegible] PRESIDENT HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT LAHUD

[Excerpt] Manama GULF MIRROR AGENCY in Arabic 1045 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 March--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid bin Sultan Al Nahayyan met here this evening with Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, who is currently visiting the UAE.

During the meeting, bilateral relations and ways of promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields were reviewed. The two sides also reviewed current Arab developments and the situation in the Horn of Africa.

The two leaders will resume their talks tomorrow morning. The Somali president's official visit to the UAE will end tomorrow afternoon, after which the Somali president will remain in Al-'Ayn until Saturday on a private visit.

PRESIDENT SAYIS [illegible] TO USE FOR FOREIGN FORCES IS HELP

[2101629 Kuwait AL-ATTIAH in Arabic 7 Mar 90 p 17 12]

[Interview granted by HE President Shaykh Sayid Ibn Sultan to Yemeni television channel correspondent and place not given]

[Interpreter] Question: The present situation in the Gulf is extremely tense in view of developments in Iran and Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. How do you evaluate the present situation in the area?

Shaykh Sayid: The world must clearly understand that the Gulf countries are not in need of any protection, that they reject military alliances, that the responsibility for protecting the area falls on the shoulders of its peoples and that they are trying to live in peace and keep away from fruitless international confrontations.

Our relations with world countries are dictated by our interests, and our friendship with the world must remain within the context of our interests and not go beyond it. We extend our hand to all those who are ready to help us without jeopardizing our freedom and independence. It can be said that the Afghanistan situation had its prelude and background in the Kabul era and did not start with the present Afghan prime minister or his predecessor, under whose regime Soviet intervention was imposed by force on the Muslim Afghan people on various pretexts.

Question: Some people in Europe believe that the oil-exporting countries are exploiting the industrial states by cutting production and increasing prices. What is Your Highness' answer to that?

Shaykh Sayid: Why this strange prejudice against OPEC countries? What is the reason for the increase in oil prices? Is it merely the desire to increase oil prices, or is the reason that the industrial states compel us to do so by daily increasing the prices of manufactured goods? The answer to this is simply that, if we compare the two sides, we find that one side has one source of income on which it entirely depends while the other has scores of income sources. I wonder if the one that has a single source can be compared with the one that has more than one source. Is it conceivable that the one that has more than one source should fear the one that has a single source?

The fact is that it is the industrial states that are exhausting our oil and wealth. A friend should not attack his friend but rather negotiate and discuss differences with him, so that relations between the two sides are equal and can be based on dialog and understanding. We have often tried to have meetings between OPEC and the consumer countries with the aim of defining both sides' responsibilities, but the industrial states did not respond to our attempts.

We are prepared to be committed to balanced principles that do not violate our rights or increase the burden of any state, be it an industrial or a Third World country. But are the industrial states willing to be committed to whatever may achieve the interests of both sides?

I call on the consuming countries to make an effective effort to rectify the course of the world economy with regard to the dollar rate, inflation and prices of manufactured goods, so that some of the OPEC countries will be able to continue playing their moderating role in preventing a big jump in oil prices. Relations between the two sides must be reciprocal; indeed, there should be balanced relations among all parties free of injustice to any side.

Question: There is increasing talk in the western countries about the possibility of war in the Gulf area. Do you believe that it could break out?

Shaykh Zayid: I see nothing of this. There are no signs of war in the Gulf and there is no justification for the west's belief. All world peoples are cooperating to live in peace, provided that the major powers do not interfere in their affairs. Therefore, the major powers must exclude the Gulf area from their sphere of rivalry. The UAE is opposed to foreign interference in the area and finds no justification for it.

We believe here that peace and security in the Gulf can come about only through consultation and joint cooperation among its peoples. Therefore, I would tell the major powers that the Gulf is at peace and in good shape, so do not come near it. But should there be any provocations or expansionist designs in the future, then the matter must be dealt with and the situation discussed in the light of developments then.

Question: How does Your Highness view the U.S. reaction to events in Afghanistan?

Shaykh Zayid: As I have already said, the Gulf is in good shape and does not need U.S. or other forces. If the United States wants to dispatch forces, then it can send them to the hot spots of invasion in Afghanistan. Foreign invasion took place there and not here. I cannot see how a party can send forces to the Gulf, which I consider its own security area. This is a case by the major powers.

Question: Does this mean, Your Highness, that you are not in favor of the presence of U.S. forces in the Gulf area?

Shaykh Zayid: Once again I affirm that we do not tie ourselves to any economic, political or military commitments with any state except within the limits of our interests. On the basis of this principle we reject the establishment of foreign bases in the area regardless of their nature.

With regard to the presence of U.S. forces in the area, we expect no such a thing from a friendly state like the United States. When a friend invades his friend, he one who is the victim of aggression is bound to turn to whoever may help him against the one who has violated the principle of friendship.

At present there is no need for help from anybody. Anything else is futile and a waste of efforts that should be devoted to other fields, such as development and progress toward a brighter and better future.

[illegible] ADMIRAL ARRIVES ON VISIT 11 MAR

[illegible] Manama GULF MIRROR ARABIC in Arabic 1710 GMT 11 Mar 80 JB

[Text] Dubayy, 11 March--Admiral Ahmad [Lonir], deputy commander of the resistant naval forces, arrived in Dubayy today on a 3-day visit to the UAE. He was received by Lt Col Muhammad 'Thayl al-Kaabum, assistant under secretary at the UAE Defense Ministry, and a number of senior officers.

UAE

BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE MEETS PRIME MINISTER

[illegible] Qatari Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Mar 80 JB

[Excerpts] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghanni received Mr Douglas Hurd, British minister of state for foreign affairs, today. The British minister conveyed a message to Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghanni from British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Hilda Thatcher confirming the United Kingdom's apology for impounding the UAE plane at the end of the UAE prime minister's visit to London.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations, Britain's stand on the Palestinian issue and the regional and international situations. The British minister expressed Britain's wish to continue cooperation in the field of development and to carry out what was agreed upon during the UAE prime minister's visit to Britain.

The prime minister welcomed the guest and expressed understanding of the issues discussed, particularly the positive British stand on the Palestinian issue and its solution, one which guarantees the rights of the Palestinian people. The prime minister stressed the importance of recognizing the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The British minister of state arrived in Doha's today morning on a 3-day visit to the UAE during which he will hold talks with UAE officials on the development of bilateral relations and will convey the British Government's apology over the impoundment of the UAE plane at the London airport.

In a statement to the QATAR NEWS AGENCY, the British official said that his visit aims at reviewing the talks which were begun by Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghanni when he visited Britain last year.

Meets Foreign Minister

[illegible] Qatari Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Mar 80 JB

[Excerpts] Dr Hasan Qubaysi, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign minister, received in his office today Douglas Hurd, British minister of state for foreign affairs.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations and ways for developing and strengthening these relations in the interest of the two countries. They also discussed the situation in the Middle East and the British stand with regard to the Palestinian question and world issues.

Reports 12 Mar

[illegible] YEMENI MINISTER VISITS ADEN

[Text] [Aden] 10 March--British minister of state for foreign affairs Douglas Hurd left Aden today following a 2-day visit to the DRA. The British minister held talks with DRA officials on bolstering bilateral relations, particularly in the commercial field, the Palestinian issue and a number of international topics.

FIRST FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES TO 'DEEPEN RELATIONS'

[illegible] Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Mar 90 LD/EA

[Text] In Aden today Brother Salih Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the political bureau and foreign minister, met Brother Dr Sayyid Hamid, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and minister of foreign affairs in the northern part of the homeland. During the meeting they discussed a number of issues of common interest to the two countries.

Brother Salih Salih Muhammad arrived in Aden this morning for a visit to the northern part of the homeland at the head of a delegation including senior foreign ministry officials. He was received at the airport by Lt Col Shayf Al-Awadhi, adviser on unity affairs to Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the northern part of the homeland; Ahmad Sayfan, under secretary of the foreign ministry and Shawqi Isa-Salili, foreign ministry director of protocol.

On arrival the brother foreign minister made a statement to the DRA news agency in which he said he is very happy to be visiting the northern part of the homeland and said that the visit will further deepen relations and links between the two parts of the homeland, which is of special significance in present circumstances. Brother Salih Salih Muhammad said he is carrying a verbal message from Brother 'Abd Al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, to Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the northern part of the homeland and commander in chief of the armed forces.

Brother Salih Salih Muhammad added in his statement that the visit is within the framework of joint meetings and consultations between the two parts of the homeland to strengthen their efforts to achieve the goals of our Yemeni people--to maintain their freedom, independence, sovereignty, unity and their national right to choose their independent development, free of all external pressures.

The foreign minister explained that he will meet brother officials of the northern part of the homeland headed by Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to exchange views on the necessary coordination relevant to issues of common interest and the desire of our peoples for national unity.

Brother Salih Salih Muhammad explained that during his stay in Aden he will meet Dr Hasan Makki to discuss with him aspects of Yemeni policy in the field of foreign and international relations in order to strengthen coordination and the closeness of joint stands of the current situation in our region and pan-Arab affairs, especially in view of current developments after the normalization of relations between Ba'athist's regime and the Zionist enemy and the dangerous effects stemming from separate solutions.

He said that besides all these matters international relations of common interest to the two countries will also be discussed.

Concluding his statement, he expressed confidence that his meetings and talks in the northern part of the homeland will be crowned with success.

Meets President

[illegible] San'a' Yemeni Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Mar 90 JN

[Text] 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, this evening received brother Salih Salih Muhammad, YSP minister of foreign affairs, who conveyed to the brother president a verbal message from his brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the president of the southern part of the homeland.

Meets Prime Minister

[illegible] San'a' Yemeni Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Mar 90 JN

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received brother Salih Salih Muhammad, minister of foreign affairs in the southern part of the homeland today.

The meeting was attended by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and minister of foreign affairs, and Lt Col Hasayn al-Ahdal, the brother president's adviser for unity affairs.

Continues Talks

[illegible] Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Mar 90 LD/KS

[Text] Brother Salih Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the political bureau and foreign minister, today met brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister of the northern part of the homeland. The meeting was attended by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign minister; and Lt Col Hasayn al-Ahdal, adviser to the brother president of the northern part of the homeland for unity affairs.

Earlier this morning, brother Salih Salih Muhammad met brother Dr Hasan Makki and discussed with him national issues of interest to the two parts of the homeland and methods of coordinating the efforts for the long-sought unity of the two parts of Yemen. They also discussed the situation in the Arab region. The meeting was attended by brother Hasayn al-Ahdal.

Last night, brother Salih Salih Muhammad met brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the northern part of the homeland, and delivered a verbal message to him from brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the presidium of the Supreme People's Council.

[illegible] 12 Mar 80 [illegible] ARABIAN PENINSULA

AL-ITTIHAD CRITICIZES U.S. RETRACTION OF UN VOTE

[BK061312 Dubai Domestic Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 6 Mar 80 JS]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD says: The U.S. administration has fallen into a strange contradiction concerning the UN Security Council resolution issued last Saturday. The resolution was adopted by a majority of the council members. It condemned the establishment of Jewish settlements in Palestinian territory occupied during the June 1967 war.

The U.S. change of position concerning the resolution is unprecedented for a superpower like the United States. It is a ridiculous and shameful stand which lessens respect for the United States in the eyes of the world. The path adopted by the United States is vague and basically serves the aims of Zionist aggression; it is a wavering and unstable attitude. It does not serve even the U.S. cause and policy. It does not improve relations between the Arab states and the White House. So long as the United States takes the side of the expansionist aggressor Israel at the expense of Arab rights and the rights of the Palestinian people, its attitude on Camp David and the Palestinian problem will never change.

The Arab League's UN representative has described Carter's position and his retraction of the U.S. vote which supported the UN Security Council resolution as shocking to the world's countries and peoples.

Carter explains this retraction as [word indistinct] decision. Because of this strange contradiction in the U.S. attitude Gamin Gemayel, Lebanon's permanent UN representative and this month's chairman of the Arab group, called for an emergency meeting of the Arab group to oppose this sudden change in the U.S. position on the recent UN Security Council resolution concerning the Zionist occupation.

It is certain that President Carter has taken this stand and prefers to contradict himself and bring upon himself the wrath of the UN Security Council members and of world public opinion rather than displease the Zionist lobby. He wants to appease the Jewish voters before the coming elections.

In any case, we do not expect the United States, which stands by Israel and supplies it with all means of survival, to change and become a patron of our peaceful cause. The Palestinian cause is the cause of the Arabs. Therefore, only the Arabs can solve their problems.

V. 22 Mar 80

FRG FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO, MEETS SADAT

[text] Cairo, March 22, [illegible]--Foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, Hans-Dietrich Genscher arrived here this morning [illegible] on a one-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. Genscher is accompanied by a delegation comprising officials from the West German Foreign Ministry together with an information delegation comprising representatives of all mass media in West Germany. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr Butros Ghali, received the German minister at the airport.

In a statement following his arrival, the West German foreign minister paid tribute to President Anwar as-Sadat, adding that the Egyptian president enjoys the respect and appreciation of the German people. Genscher said that Egypt and West Germany are bound with close relations since many years and that these relations were further consolidated through the leaderships of the two countries. The West German foreign minister pointed out that it was natural to meet President Anwar as-Sadat and officials in Egypt to discuss and exchange viewpoints with them on the international situation. "Today's international situation is, even more than before, in need of constant exchange of viewpoints and consultations. Hence my brief visit to Egypt," he added.

Genscher stressed that West Germany's stance is to seek a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He expressed hope that his talks in Egypt would be fruitful both in connection with the Middle East or other international issues, particularly the situation in Afghanistan, which, he said, constitutes a threat not only to the Afghan people but to the entire region and other regions as well. "All the states, including Egypt and Israel, stand themselves in the dock in the face of this threat," he added.

Referring to the recent meetings in Kuala Lumpur of the ministers of the European Economic Community and the Southeast Asian group, Genscher said "We have reviewed during these meetings the situation in the Middle East and its developments in addition to the situation in Cambodia."

"In order to maintain the security and safety of all the countries of the world, the international community should adopt a serious stance based on support for the right of all peoples to self-determination, stressing their security and safety and preserving the independence of the peoples," Genscher said, adding that this means non-interference in the internal affairs of other states.

The West German foreign minister stressed in this connection the stance of his country which rejects the logic of hegemony. He added that the peoples should be given the chance to run their own affairs by themselves and to take decisions away from any interference.

Genscher said that the European Economic Community has made clear its stance in a statement issued in this respect stressing the necessity of achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East including the rights of the Palestinian people.

In reply to a question, Genscher said that West Germany has great hopes that President as-Sadat will succeed in his courageous efforts for realizing peace.

T. 22 Mar 80

DRAFT

asked whether he believed that West Germany can play a role in the Middle East and Afghanistan, the foreign minister said that as this country is a member of the European Community, its policy stems from the common policies of the Community and FRG political activities are accordingly carried out through the Community.

Elaborating, Genscher said that the European Community has always had close relations and friendly ties with the United States, and that the world should now live in a state of balance of power, without which peace and security could not exist. Such balance is based on cooperation between the U.S. and the European Community. He underlined in this connection that all efforts made by Moscow and others to disintegrate the European Community were doomed to failure.

Genscher pointed out that the link between the European Community and the United States of America was not military but a link of an alliance of a group that is founded on values and the sharing of one destiny.

He noted that among the basic principles forming the west German policies was cooperation with the U.S. and the European Community in bringing about a solution of the Middle East question based on the existence of Israel.

Khalil, Khalil, Genscher Visit

XXCAIRO Cairo XXXX in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Mar 80 AC

[Text] Cairo, 3 March--At [illegible] today, prime minister and foreign minister, Dr Mustafa Khalil, received FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at his office in the cabinet headquarters. Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butros Ghali, attended the meeting.

Speaking at a press conference after the 90-minute meeting, Dr Mustafa Khalil said that he discussed extremely important issues with Mr Genscher. He added he explained our views on these issues. Dr Mustafa Khalil expressed his good wishes for the success of Mr Genscher. He also thanked him for making this visit.

Commenting on Dr Mustafa Khalil's statement, Mr Genscher expressed his gratitude to Dr Khalil for giving him an opportunity to hold discussions in depth and to exchange views with him. He said these discussions, which are based on confidence, have become a tradition between us. Genscher added that primarily links our two countries is the traditional friendship between the Egyptian and German peoples. He also said the second factor which links us is the fact that the Mediterranean no longer separates the European states and the Mediterranean littoral states. On the contrary, it has become a factor linking them, because we share a common fate due to the fact that peace in the Mediterranean means now, as it always did, peace in Europe.

Mr Genscher went on: what particularly links the Egyptians and the Germans is their desire to solve all problems, including the most intricate, by peaceful means. This policy, which is based on peace, represents the core of the policy in both our countries. Therefore, we are trying together, each by his own means and according to his special circumstances, to contribute to the achievement of a comprehensive, durable and just peace in the Middle East.

Genscher further said: We are seeking a peace under which all countries, including Israel, will feel secure. We seek a peace which would give an opportunity to all peoples, including the Palestinians, to exercise their right for self-determination. Genscher went on: This applies to all states, parties, groups, nations and peoples of the region. He added: We are confident that Egypt, which has shown a strong sense of responsibility, is seeking to achieve this great aim--the creation of a durable, comprehensive and just peace. Any support these efforts receive we come from a country which supports the cause of peace.

Asked whether the FRG was contributing to the current European moves to help in the peace process, Mr Genscher said: On several occasions since 1973 we clearly declared in statements made in Arab and European states and Israel, and particularly during our meeting with President Anwar as-Sadat in Egypt last year, that a durable, just and comprehensive peace in the region must include the right of Palestinians to self-determination and the right of Israel to live within secure borders. He added: In order not to reiterate the details, I would like to refer to the statement which the European Council issued on 29 June last year and the statement which the Irish foreign minister issued in his capacity as the spokesman of the European group before the last session of the UN General Assembly.

Genscher then said: Let me conclude my statement by pointing out that it is seldom that I make a visit during which I discuss the most complicated problems in such a friendly and warm atmosphere as that which prevailed here. The identity of our views and our determination to find constructive solutions to the outstanding problems has become clear.

Genscher then expressed his gratitude to Dr Mustafa Khalil and Dr Butros Ghali for the warm reception he was accorded during this visit.

As-Sadat Receives Genscher

[illegible] Cairo [illegible] in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 6 March--At 1130 today, President Anwar as-Sadat received at his residence in Al-'uwaytir al-Khayriyah FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. The FRG ambassador in Cairo attended the meeting.

Press Conference Follows Talks

[illegible] Cairo [illegible] in English 1140 GMT 6 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 6, [illegible]--President Anwar as-Sadat today hailed the pioneer role played by the Federal Republic of Germany to maintain peace in the Middle East. He added he is grateful for "the understanding we receive from our friends in the FRG."

After his meeting today with foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, President as-Sadat said they discussed together the whole world situation and added that premier and foreign minister, Dr. Mustafa Khalil, also briefed Genscher on the results of The Hague meeting.

Following is the text of President as-Sadat's words to journalists following his meeting with Hans-Dietrich Genscher:

EGYPT

It has been a great joy for me to meet my dear friend Mr. Genscher. The last time I do remember we met in Alexandria in the air, and at this giant fertilizer [plant] that had been completed at that time. For sure I would have liked him to stay and give us much more time, but I quite understand there is responsibilities and the urgency of his departure. Anyhow, we have benefited from their few hours in our country. Today, the Federal Republic of Germany is really acting a very important pioneer role not only in the sphere of peace in Europe but peace here in this area and peace all over the world. We are very deeply grateful for the understanding that we receive from our friends in the Federal Republic of Germany. Today we have exchanged views and I am happy because he [Genscher] had a long meeting with Premier Shalil, who has briefed him on the last meeting in Holland.

We have covered the whole situation in the world, especially after we has informed me about the meeting in Venice Summit and I have informed him about the latest events [in the area] and Premier Shalil has briefed him fully. I added my views, and we had a very fruitful exchange [Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1200 GMT quotes as-Sadat as saying the exchange was "constructive and fruitful"] of views, and as usual, we are always identical. Let me seize this opportunity and welcome my dear friend Minister Genscher. I would not have him for another few hours or one day or so; well. I can understand this, but I ask him to convey to the president and to my dear friend Chancellor Schmidt all my very best wishes and the deep gratitude of my people and mine together for the this pioneer role that Germany is rendering for the case of peace all over the world. Thank you."

Asm-Dietrich Genscher said he briefed President as-Sadat and Premier Shalil on the Venice Summit meeting during which the conferees underlined the importance of equilibrium of power, which has greatly been impaired by the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

The FRG foreign minister also underlined his country's position for a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East and the right of the Palestinians for self-determination and to live in recognized and secure borders. Genscher also pointed out that the EEC foreign ministers asserted the right of the Palestinians for a home and that they alone have the right to decide who represents them.

Genscher expressed his country's esteem of President as-Sadat's policy for maintaining peace in the Middle East.

Following is Dietrich Genscher's words to journalists: Today's intensive and fruitful exchange of views with President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Shalil dealt with international and regional questions and with the close and friendly bilateral relations. This gave me an opportunity to inform President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Shalil of the meeting which took place in Venice Summit the last two days between the foreign ministers of the European Community and the foreign ministers of Southeast Asia.

We reached an agreement that the strengthening of the independence and the nonalignment of the countries of the Third World constitute an essential element of the equilibrium of power, an equilibrium which has been greatly impaired by the military occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union.

[illegible] 12 Mar 80 [illegible] EGYPT

In the light of these recent events in this area, the deliberation of the EEC-Southeast Asian foreign ministers conference and the exchanges I had today here led to the conclusion that the solution of the Middle East problem is more urgent than ever. I have underlined in particular that [consultation], according to the position which the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has taken for years.

The just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East must include a self-evident element of an agreed peace settlement: the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people as well as the right for all countries of the region, including Israel, to live in recognized and secure boundaries.

On the basis of the familiar statements made by the European Community I was in agreement with my hosts last year in Abu Dir that the Palestinian people are entitled to exercise their right of self-determination. It is entitled that it has the right to a home. Palestinian people are entitled to determine their future. They alone have the right to decide who represents them. The objective must be a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. For this reason there can be no separate peace.

Genscher added: On 25 September 1979, the nine member states of the European Community, in a speech made before the 34th General Assembly of the United Nations, jointly supported the right of Palestinians to determine by themselves and for themselves their future as a people. In the same speech we had a more objective view to the settlement policy pursued by the Government of Israel in the occupied territory, a policy which again was condemned in the Security Council recently--I was delighted to note that the Government of Egypt and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany continued to uphold this position unchanged.

Mr President, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude for the hospitality you extended to us, for friendship you have been extending to the German people and its leaders. I assure you that you enjoy with us, with our people, the greatest esteem and greatest respect, and we wish you all success, every success, on your way for the peace in the region, for the peace of Arab countries, for the peace of Israel, and for the unity of the Arab camp. You should know, Mr. President, that our best wishes accompany you and that we are with these wishes at your side. Thank you very much.

Asked about the limits of the European initiative Mr. Genscher said: I have just been describing the position of the European Community. This position is defined in the statement made by European Council in London. It is defined in the speech made by the Irish foreign minister on behalf of the Community to the General Assembly of the United Nations and from this follows the position that we are taking.

I think the advantage of all these statements is that none of the European declarations have ever been inspired by a one-sided approach, but on the contrary they are fully aware of the necessity to arrive at a comprehensive, just and lasting peace and this would include the right of the Arabs, including Palestinians, to self-determination and the right of Israel as the whole countries in the region to live in secure and recognized boundaries.

All these things belong together and I think if all parties concerned sit to very fully aware of these elements we can get nearer to peace than if one has in mind only one individual aspect and one individual interest. And I think like efforts undertaken by President as-Sadat are due to the fact that he has taken into account the interest of all parties concerned in order to arrive at secure and lasting peace as a basis for settlement.

Genscher was then asked if the European countries develop any platform to put these ideas of self-determination into force and how to implement it.

Genscher said that the Federal Republic of Germany has been using this term of self-determination on its own behalf, on behalf of all peoples, including the Palestinians, for a good many years; and since 1974 this has also been particularly with reference to the Palestinians in the United Nations on occasions like these, in Israel, in meetings and visits of that kind because we feel that the foreign policy will be credible only in the long run only if it speaks for the same voice everywhere. And I think I can note that there is growing understanding, growing support for this position and for this policy and I was delighted to note not only today but also in the past that President as-Sadat and the Federal Republic of Germany are in full agreement as regards the pursuance of such a realistic policy.

Genscher Departs Cairo

LD2301415 Cairo MENA in English 1342 GMT 5 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 5, (MENA)--Hans-Dietrich Genscher, foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, and his accompanying delegation left here today for home, winding up his visit to Cairo during which he conferred with president Anwar as-Sadat and premier and foreign affairs minister, Dr. Mustafa Khalil. The German minister was seen off at the airport by director of the office of protocol at the foreign ministry Ambassador Muhsin ad-Diwani.

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH MUBARAK, KHALIL

NC1113200 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Mar 80 NC

[Text] This morning Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Netherlands foreign minister Mr. Van Klaaus. The Netherlands foreign minister began his talks this morning with minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali. The talks dealt with international and Middle Eastern issues as well as bilateral relations. The Netherlands foreign minister arrived in Cairo early this morning on a 1-day visit.

The Netherlands foreign minister stated that his meeting with Vice President Mubarak was fruitful in getting to know the Egyptian views and policy on the Middle East situation, and this this was the main purpose of his visit to Cairo. He added that he discussed with Dr Butrus Ghali the latest developments in the Middle East crisis. He said: We expressed hope for progress and success in the negotiations. He said that they also discussed cooperation among the African states, particularly in the economic sphere, and coordination between the Egyptian and Netherlands positions in this regard.

he said that the position of the EEC states is known, and that it calls for a solution to the problem on the basis of self-determination for the Palestinian people and within the framework of comprehensive peace. He said further that the EEC states will wait until the end of May for the outcome of the autonomy negotiations and then decide their next step.

On the other hand, Dr Butrus Ghali stated that he explained to the Netherlands foreign minister the details of the autonomy negotiations, stressing that Egypt is working for the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people and to set them on the right course.

Press Conference

MC111547 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1346 GMT 11 Mar 80 MC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 11 March--Netherlands Foreign Minister Van Der Klaauw has reaffirmed that his country believes it is necessary to find a solution to the Palestinian problem based on respect for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination within the framework of a comprehensive peace agreement in the Middle East.

At a press conference today, the minister pointed out that the Netherlands previously had traditional relations with Israel, but that these relations had now changed because of the Netherlands' interest in the Middle East and in a solution to the Palestinian problem.

Van Der Klaauw described the Camp David agreements as a very good start for solving the Middle East problem. He affirmed that his country supported a peaceful solution to the problem, saying: The question now is how to make others participate in the peace process.

Answering a question on the interpretation of UN Resolution 242, the Netherlands minister said: We must wait and see what the autonomy negotiations will produce by May.

Answering a question about the PLO, Van Der Klaauw said: It is something that exists and is tangible, but we do not know if it represents all the Palestinians.

Answering another question, the minister affirmed that there was no difference between his views and those of FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

He emphasized that amicable relations exist between Egypt and the Netherlands in various fields, saying: We are looking forward to more cooperation. The minister said that he addressed an official invitation to minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, to visit the Netherlands in the near future.

The Netherlands minister will leave Cairo for home tomorrow morning after a 1-day visit.

EGYPTIAN APPOINTED TO TWO AUTONOMY COMMITTEES

MC111456 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1352 GMT 11 Mar 80 MC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 March--MENA has learned that it has been decided to appoint Ambassador Tahir Shash, director of the Legal Department at the Foreign Ministry, as chairman of the Egyptian side to the autonomy talks' legislative committee, the formation of which was decided at the recent Hague conference.

It has also been decided to appoint Ambassador Salah 'Issat, the director of the Economic Department at the Foreign Ministry, as chairman of the Egyptian side to the economic committee, the formation of which was recommended by The Hague conference.

SOMALI PRESIDENT, DELEGATION MAY OFFICIAL VISIT

Foreign Minister Arrives 7 Mar

/9971520 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 7 Mar 90 /X

[Text] Baghdad, 7 March--Somali Foreign Affairs Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit of several days to Iraq. The Somali minister said that while in Baghdad he will hold talks with his Iraqi counterpart, Dr Ta'Sin Khamadi, on bilateral relations.

Foreign Ministers Confer

/9981257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1007 GMT 8 Mar 90 /X

[Text] Baghdad, 8 March--Foreign Minister Dr Ta'Sin Khamadi met here today with Somali Foreign Affairs Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre. During the meeting, the guest minister explained his country's stand on President Saddam Husayn's national declaration.

The Somali minister arrived in Baghdad last night on a short visit to Iraq.

President Arrives 8 Mar

/9981112 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 8 Mar 90 /X

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 8 March--Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre arrived here today on an official visit to Iraq, at the invitation of President Saddam Husayn. The guest president was accorded a large official reception at the airport. President Saddam Husayn led those who received the Somali president.

Talks Begin

/9982211 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 8 Mar 90 /X

[Text] Baghdad, 8 March--The first official round of Iraqi-Somali talks began here tonight. The Iraqi side was headed by President Saddam Husayn and the Somali side was headed by President Mohamed Siad Barre. During this session, the talks dealt with the general Arab situation and the challenges facing the Arab nation and the state of Somalia.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations in the political and economic fields, the Iraqi role in supporting the Somali development plan and means to strengthen cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by RCC member and First Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan and Foreign Minister Ta'Sin Khamadi. On the Somali side, the talks were attended by chairman of the higher administration for scientific research Col Mohamed Osman Jelle and Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre.

President Mohamed Siad Barre had arrived here earlier heading an official delegation on a visit to Iraq at the invitation of President Saddam Husayn.

SOMALI Report on Talks

LD091157 Somali SOMA in Arabic 0730 GMT 9 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Beirut, 9 March--Iraq seems to be trying to alienate Somalia from the security measures taken by the United States to bolster its military presence in the Gulf area following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, Arab diplomatic sources are reported to have said here today.

The sources did not exclude the likelihood that Iraqi President Saddam Hussayn, in his talks with his guest, Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, is trying to persuade the latter to disengage from his relations with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

The sources were commenting on the current talks between President Hussayn and President Barre, who arrived in Baghdad unexpectedly yesterday.

The United States had claimed that Somalia was one of three countries which had agreed to grant military facilities in their territories as part of the new American strategy which aims at concentrating troops in the area of the Indian Ocean and the Gulf area adjoining the Gulf.

Somalia had refused to join the other Arab states, including Iraq, which had boycotted Egypt politically, diplomatically and economically for concluding a peace treaty with Israel.

Iraq takes a firm stand against what it considers as American designs to dominate the Gulf area. Last month, Iraq proposed a charter aimed at regulating relations among the Arab countries. Among other things, the charter calls for withdrawing from foreign forces and bases of facilities in the Arab world.

Talks Continue

LD091550 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0621 GMT 9 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Baghdad, 9 March--Official talks between President Saddam Hussayn and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre resumed here today.

The Iraqi side includes RCC Vice Chairman Izzat Ibrahim, RCC member and Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi.

The Somali side includes chairman of the higher administration for scientific research and member of the Somali Socialist Party Central Committee Mohamed Osman Jelle and Foreign Minister and Central Committee member Abdurrahman Jama Barre.

Talks between President Saddam Hussayn and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre commenced yesterday at the presidential palace and dealt with bilateral relations in various sectors and means of bolstering cooperation to strengthen developmental activity in both countries. The talks also dealt with the latest developments and events in the Arab arena and problems faced by the fraternal Somali state.

The Somali president arrived in Baghdad yesterday on an official visit at the invitation of President Saddam Hussayn.

Further Talks

[illegible] Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 9 Mar 90 JO

[Text] Baghdad, 9 March--Economic discussions between Iraq and Somalia began here today to promote bilateral cooperation in different fields. The Iraqi side was headed by Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Minister 'Amir Hindi and included officials from the Planning and Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Ministries. The Somali side was headed by Agriculture Minister Ahmad Hasan Musa and included several members of the delegation accompanying the Somali president. During the meeting bilateral relations and means of developing them, especially in the agricultural field, were discussed.

Meanwhile, RCC member and Industry and Minerals Minister Tahir Tawfiq met here today with Somali Mineral and Water Development Minister Hussein 'Abd al-Qadir Qasim. The meeting was attended by Oil Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Rahman Hamadi. During the meeting industrial relations and means of developing them in the future were discussed. Minister Tawfiq told the Somali minister of Iraq's interest in activating joint Arab projects and widening the scope of cooperation between Arab countries.

The Somali mineral and water development minister lauded Iraq's national stands, especially its economic support for Somalia and for developing its resources. He also lauded Iraq's participation in the Arabization currently taking place in the fraternal Somali state.

Both Somali ministers are accompanying President Muhamad Siad Barre on his current visit to Iraq.

[illegible] OFFICIAL RECEIVES YEMENI FRONT DELEGATION

[illegible] Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Mar 90 JO

[Text] Baghdad, 11 March--Dr Qasim Salam, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party pan-Arab Command member, received a delegation representing the Supreme Political Command of the Yemeni United National Front led by the front's president 'Abd al-Qawi Makawi here today. Talks during the meeting centered on the current Arab situation and general recent developments, particularly Yemeni developments. They also discussed the conditions of national struggle in Yemen and noted the increasing amount of trusteeship, influence, interference and foreign interference in South Yemen's affairs.

In addition, they reviewed the current circumstances of oppression and terror under which the nationalists in South Yemen are living. They discussed the campaigns of arrests, pursuit, kidnapings and physical liquidations aimed against the Yemeni nationalists.

The two sides reaffirmed their determination to continue the struggle for Yemen's independence, national sovereignty, progress and unity.

AUSTRIAN VICE CHANCELLOR ARRIVES IN AMM

TA1011456 Amman JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Mar 80 JT

[Text] Amman, 10 March--Dr Hannes Androsch, Austrian vice chancellor and finance minister, arrived in Amman today at the head of a delegation on a 3-day visit to Jordan.

During the visit, the delegation will hold talks with officials in the Industry and Trade Ministry, the Finance Ministry, the National Planning Council, the Jordan Valley Authority and the Ports Establishment for the purpose of promoting bilateral relations.

Meets with King

TA1111629 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Mar 80 JT

[Text] His Majesty King Hussayn received Dr Hannes Androsch, Austrian vice chancellor and finance minister, at the royal Hashemite court this afternoon. During the meeting, the relations of joint friendship and cooperation between the two countries were reviewed.

The meeting was attended by the Austrian ambassador in Amman.

PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES FOREIGN RELATIONS

TA1111641 London AZH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Mar 80 pg 1, 7 IP

[Interview granted by Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad al-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf to wafa'i Diyab in Amman--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] How do you view the Arab situation now in the light of Jordan's stand on the Camp David accords and the changes that have occurred in the Arab arena?

[Answer] Briefly, the Arab stand needs to be organized and consolidated. Our attitude toward the Camp David agreement is based on clear principles. We judged this agreement by the same standards by which we judge every agreement, effort or international steps in the Middle East dealing with the problem of Arab rights and Palestinian rights. Accordingly, we believe that the Camp David agreement ignored the Palestinian people's national rights, inalienable Arab rights and the fundamentals of the just peace which we are seeking and which we accept.

[Question] It appears that the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel is, as you may know, proceeding normally. Will the Arab efforts, in your view, be capable of putting a stop to this?

[Answer] The Arab efforts at present do not seem capable of halting the Egyptian leadership's rush toward normalizing relations and entering into relations of friendship, unity and cooperation with Israel at the expense of Arab interests and Egypt's basic and historical national commitments. But the Arab efforts could seek to contain this breach in the Arab stand, close the Arab ranks and avert this danger. The Baghdad summit conference resolutions, subsequently endorsed in the Tunis summit conference resolutions, sought, on the one hand, to bring the Arab countries together and, on the other, to block Israeli economic, cultural, political and military expansion in the Arab homeland. We believe that we are capable of achieving this. Of course, we have temporarily lost Egypt from the Arab equation and Egypt's Arab affiliation, but we can do two things at least: The first is to block Israel's dangerous expansion at the expense of our rights and the second is to change the equation through inter-Arab dealing and by organizing the Arab front, thereby bringing about a large-scale change in the balance of power between the Arabs and their opponents. This is possible and it can redress the great imbalance that has occurred. But these matters need perseverance, work and joint efforts to transcend secondary or even--if I may say so--tribal differences in the Arab arena.

[Question] Would you consider the national charter proposed by Iraq a new starting point to achieve Arab solidarity?

[Answer] In fact the national charter proposed by Iraq contains fundamental principles which I believe no Arab side could disagree with. This charter provides for the need to free the Arab homeland from spheres of influence, for the prevention of any foreign bases regardless of their identity on Arab territories, and for the Arabs to solve their problems among themselves through peaceful means and noninterference in one another's affairs.

We were among the first Arab countries that hastened to support the Iraqi initiative and we hope that these principles will become part of our thinking, reality and joint Arab planning.

[Question] How do you view Jordanian-Syrian relations?

[Answer] Jordanian-Syrian relations are good. They are based on common ties and interests as well as on Jordan's sincere concern for the interest of the Syrian brothers, for Syria's stability and prosperity and for the success of its leadership. We believe that Jordan and Syria are in the same position in confronting the major danger threatening the Arab nation. It is one of our first duties to underline the close ties between the confrontation states standing in the same stream and facing the challenge on behalf of the entire Arab nation. There are always the few who engage in rumor-mongering and who wish to wreck Jordan's Arab relations, whether within the Jordanian community or in the Arab arena, in order to serve foreign powers seeking to harm and sabotage these relations. As I said, Jordanian-Syrian relations and relations with the rest of the Arab countries are close and good and we hope that they will develop and grow in the interest of all.

[Question] How does Jordan view President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to the area and what does it expect from it?

[Answer] President Giscard d'Estaing has great status in Europe and the world, he has previously taken initiatives toward the Arab countries which we highly appreciate. President Giscard d'Estaing has close personal relations with King Hussayn based on mutual respect and agreement on basic issues, including concern for national independence and belief in basic principles in international relations. There are also economic, cultural and other relations between us and France. Therefore, we consider this visit useful. We welcome it and we appreciate that France is playing a constructive role within the European community toward the Arab homeland.

PRESS COMMENT ON GISCARD VISIT, FRENCH POLICY

AR-RA'Y Summary of Visit

JN0999125 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Mar 80 pp 1, 15 JN

[Text] Yesterday, and for the first time, President Giscard d'Estaing called for the participation of the PLO and all other concerned sides in negotiations for a just and comprehensive peace. This call came in the French president's address during the banquet given by King Hussayn to honor the French president, his wife and the accompanying delegation.

By doing this, President Giscard d'Estaing has "added an important new element" which clarifies the initiative started in Cancun when he called for the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and for considering the Palestinian question as one of a people and not of refugees. The initiative was further clarified by adding another element to it during the French president's visit to Abu Dhabi when he called for the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories since 1967. Now, while in Amman, he adds the third element in recognizing the PLO and calling for its participation as a concerned side in the peace negotiations.

These three rapid developments as a whole, the peace conditions laid down and the French stand in the Security Council in support of dismantling Israeli settlements undoubtedly from the clear outlines of an initiative. This proves beyond any doubt that President Giscard d'Estaing has come to 'play a role' in achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the area, which is the thing that King Hussayn called upon him to do in his dinner address when he said: We call on you to take the initiative in the European community and international forums to avoid more disasters, and open the way toward a just peace.

Thus a 'French initiative' with defined features, which could become 'a European initiative' has appeared on the international stage.

It is clear that the French president's initiative has important meanings. These are: 1) The victory of the Jordanian and the unified Arab stand which was crystallized in the Baghdad and Tunis summits. This proves that Arab solidarity, which was achieved at a most critical time, has courageously resisted the Camp David storm and succeeded on the international level. 2) The initiative is an 'indication' that Camp David is no longer of importance. It is also a warning to the Camp David partners to stop interfering in the affairs of the Palestinian people, including the autonomy talks which are being held against the Palestinian people's will. 3) The call on all concerned parties to participate in the peace talks, is a call to the Camp David partners as well to take part. This clearly means that the 'Camp David framework' should be put aside and the issue should be tackled under an international umbrella.

The 'Giscard d'Estaing initiative' is a major event which is bound to raise Israeli and Zionist 'storms.' Still, this initiative is proof of the French president's courage and France's determination to play a significant historic role in returning peace and stability to the area.

AD-DUSTUR Supports Peace Plan

[LD290711] Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 12 Mar 80 JE

[From the press review]

[Text] AD-DUSTUR writes: The principles for a solution that were announced in Amman are the closest yet between European and Baghdad summit viewpoints. At the same time, the principles express a covert criticism of and a polite obituary for the Camp David accords.

Now it is up to the Arab states, who denounced the Camp David accords because of the grave danger inherent in them, to benefit intelligently and quickly from this European open-door policy resulting from the French president's visit to the Middle East, so as not to give Israel the chance of ruining this new positive stand taken by the European community.

In other words, what is required is the continuation and promotion of discussions with France and the European community, with the aim of developing the Amman principles into a definite peace plan, based on functional program by which to put it into practice.

To clarify matters further, we say that what is required now is a peace plan agreed on by the Arabs and Europeans, blessed by the Eastern bloc and nonaligned countries, to be later proposed to the UN General Assembly and Security Council so that it can be accepted by the world community. This plan would then become the sole basis for reaching a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

[illegible] 12 Mar 68 [illegible] [illegible]

It is expected that Israel will attempt to abort this movement by all possible means. It has already started its campaign against the French president and its complaints against European countries because of him. However, Israel is totally isolated. The faltering and vacillating U.S. stand will not be able to stop the European move. The United States would not agree to enter into a complete state of isolation with Israel against its European allies. Neither would the U.S. stand be capable of finding excuses for the unreasonable Israeli stand against the whole world.

AD-DUSTUR Praises Gilcost Policy

[illegible] Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Mar 68 JI

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the caption "Welcome to President Lisrard d'Estaing," the newspaper AD-DUSTUR published the following comment: The French president's visit to Jordan is being undertaken to crown the existing developed ties between our two countries and peoples. These ties took their current course during the era of the late President de Gaulle.

The Jordanian people, since the days of President de Gaulle, have appreciated the daring stand of friendly France on the Palestinian people's rights and its continued rejection of Israeli arrogance. The Jordanian people's appreciation of the French role reached its climax when President Lisrard d'Estaing specifically declared, during his current tour of the area, that there will be no solution in the Middle East without giving the Palestinian people the right of self-determination. This stand has been clearly adopted by the EEC states.

The paper adds: Of course this stand does not satisfy Israel and has perhaps angered the United States. Nevertheless, President Lisrard d'Estaing, whose country has turned from the principle of blind subservience to Washington's policy in Europe and has pursued an independent nuclear policy, far from NATO and the white House control, he is well aware of the fact that the absence of a wise and daring U.S. leadership to confront Israel's schemes is bound to threaten Middle East peace and wipe out the West's interests and relations with the Arab people. Therefore, France's wise stand toward all-round and just peace in this area serves not only the French people but world peace and international interests as well. This objective can only be realized by curbing the Israeli aggression and by championing the rights of all parties concerned, through a peace formula that includes the participation of all parties.

FORMER PRESIDENT CHAM'UN ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

Voice of Lebanon Report

MC120040 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0641 GMT 12 Mar 80 MC

[Text] Former President Camille Cham'un escaped from an assassination attempt at 0730 today while he was going from Al-Ashrafiyah to Juniyah. He is now in Hotel Dieu Hospital. When his car arrived in Ad-Dawrah quarter near the Karantina company a Renault 12 car exploded near Cham'un's car. He was not hurt while one of his aides, George al-'Aaz was killed and George Shaqqur, Tony Shaqqur and Georgette Jiryes were wounded.

Release From Hospital

MC120634 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0650 GMT 12 Mar 80 MC

[Text] Former President Camille Cham'un left Hotel Dieu Hospital at 0620 today after receiving treatment for slight wounds. He went home and is in good health.

Conversation With Darwis

MC120741 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 12 Mar 80 MC

[Text] The attempt on the life of former President Camille Cham'un today caused a wave of denunciation in official and popular circles. President Ilyas Darwis contacted former President Camille Cham'un by telephone to inquire about his health and details of the incident.

Briefing for Al-Hass

MC120802 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Mar 80 MC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Hass followed up developments in the security situation this morning, particularly the incident to which former President Camille Cham'un was subjected. Prime Minister al-Hass was briefed by Staff Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj on the details of the incident and the measures adopted to contain any reaction. The prime minister contacted former President Camille Cham'un by telephone to congratulate him on his escape and denounce the incident.

Political Leaders' Reaction

MC121045 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0915 GMT 12 Mar 80 MC

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has said: We can only thank God for the safety of former President Camille Cham'un. May God help the people in deliverance and emergence from this situation. I can add nothing more to this.

Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil said: It appears that God is a Lebanese for he has been saving us. We thank God that nothing worse happened. We will continue to pursue the same course. All these incidents will not deter us. He who wants to try let him do so.

Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said: I strongly denounce the incident. I am pleased that former President Cham'un is safe. On this occasion I urge all the Lebanese to exercise self-restraint and avoid any reaction. The investigation into the incident has begun.

[illegible]

AL-ASAD ADDRESSES VOCATIONAL SOCIETIES' CONFERENCE 11 MAR

[Editing] Damascus--At 1130 today, President Hafiz al-Asad attended the opening session of the special conference being held by the Syrian General Federation of Vocational Societies at the Trade Union Building in Damascus to reach the proper formula and to adopt the necessary resolutions for confronting the imperialist-reactionary plot against our steadfast country. The president made a speech in which he said: I am pleased to attend your special conference, to meet with you and to address my greetings to every member of the vocational societies.

It is only natural for the brother members of the vocational societies to hold this special conference at a time when the reactionary onslaught, which is backed and led by Israel and the United States, has reached its peak. It is only natural for our brothers to discuss means of resisting the enemies of the revolution and their savage onslaught, which hopes to destroy our gains and national and pan-Arab aspirations.

There is no fear for the revolution, because the people are the defenders of the revolution. To kill the revolution they will have to kill the people and this is impossible. I echo your words and say that our slogan is this: The enemies of the revolution are also the enemies of the vocational societies. Reaction, Israel and U.S. intelligence think that Hafiz al-Asad is the only one who counts in this country. I wish they knew the truth about people. They would have found that Hafiz al-Asad is only one of the people.

The president affirmed: The United States is the real enemy of our people and Arab nation. What we are facing today was planned by U.S. intelligence. It is the United States that is sending agents against us and providing them with what they want. It is the United States that is guiding the activities of these agents from centers not far from our country. The United States is the real enemy against our people's progress and development and the solidarity and unity of our Arab nation. It is the United States that dealt a treacherous blow to our nation when it established the traitor agent Anwar as-Sadat as the ruler of Egypt and ordered him to go to Israel and to pursue a pro-U.S. policy, thereby disowning Egypt's Arab affiliation and fighting every Arab and Islamic policy. These are some examples of what the United States has done. The United States has ordered its agent as-Sadat to divide the Arabs and Muslims and to strike an alliance with Israel, so that it will be the supreme power in this region. These are only a few examples of what the United States and its intelligence have done and will do in the region.

But the United States and its intelligence agents and Israel and its intelligence agents have forgotten this people's inability and determination to make every sacrifice for its issues, especially the major national and pan-Arab issues. They have forgotten that their crises will not deceive us. We will not be deceived by the crises of the U.S. and Israeli intelligence services and their agents. If they don't know, then they should know that we will not hesitate to defend our interests and national and pan-Arab aspirations. We tell them: Come to the battlefield here and you will see what this people can do to you. Not willing. The president concluded his speech by saying: I do not want to take up your time. You have to tackle your agenda. I want to conclude by saying: Take up your position in defense of your revolution as other popular organizations have done. Peace be upon you.

[illegible] PEASANTS' CONFERENCE CALLS TO CONFRONT ARABIAN BROTHERHOOD

[illegible]GM Syrian Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 11 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The extraordinary conference of the General Federation of Peasants Union [GFPU] issued the following statement at the conclusion of its work yesterday: The GFPU has held an extraordinary conference under its chairman Ahmad Mustafa Ahmad al-Khalid. The conference was held under the slogan: "Confronting the imperialist-reactionary onslaught is a pan-Arab responsibility shouldered by the toiling masses in the service of the revolution and progress."

The conference, which was held on 10 March at the GFPU premises, reviewed all the stages through which the Arab struggle and liberation movement is passing. The conference discussed the dimensions of the reactionary role in implementing the imperialist-Zionist-isolationist scheme in the Arab arena which is aimed at peddling the Camp David plot and at liquidating the Palestinian cause--a cause which constitutes the core of the contemporary Arab struggle.

The conference reiterated that Syria's steadfastness represents the Arab stronghold confronting the conspiratorial Camp David alliance. This alliance is first and foremost aimed at implementing the imperialist-Zionist scheme in the Arab world and at dragging the Arab regimes onto the road of capitulation as occurred with Arab Egypt, due to the collusion of its agent leader Sadat with his imperialist and Zionist masters. The conference then thoroughly discussed the internal situation, the role being played by the criminal Muslim Brotherhood in implementing the imperialist and reactionary plots and the peasants' role in confronting these criminals and in liquidating their material and social presence and bases.

The conference adopted the following resolutions:

1. To undertake the leader president's speech as a working program for the peasants' organization during the next phase.

2. To organize the peasants within armed factions to defend the revolutionary and socialist gains that have been scored under the umbrella of the revolution and to intercept members of the Muslim Brotherhood gang--a gang which aims at sabotaging the nation.

3. To train the peasants in use of arms to confront the plot.

4. To reveal all plotters and their collaborators and to confront them everywhere and under all circumstances.

5. To call upon all our peasants to confront these renegades, the enemies of God and the homeland.

6. To confront exploitation and opportunists and those who are playing games with the masses' interests and fate.

The conference also adopted a number of revolutionary resolutions aimed at boosting the socialist course in the agricultural sector. In concluding, the conference greeted president leader Hafiz al-Asad for his struggle stand against the imperialist-reactionary onslaught aimed at harming our masses' gains and our people's militant march. The conference also praised the leader president's efforts and revolutionary directives which are bound to deepen our revolutionary and socialist course toward development and liberation.

ALGERIA

GOVERNMENT APPROVES TERMINATION OF NEW ENVOYS TO ALGERIA

LD1111457 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 6 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[ADN report: "Approval of Several New Foreign Ambassadors"]

[Text] Algiers--The government of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria has approved the nomination of several new foreign ambassadors to Algeria," the Foreign Ministry announced on Wednesday.

--of Mr 'Abd al-Wahid Jaba'li [Abdelouahid] as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

--of Monsignor Gabriel Montalvo as papal nuncio to Algeria;

--of Mr Eye Alpha Kpaya as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Sierra Leone, with residence in Paris;

--of Mr Jamil Muhammad Barrasi as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda, with residence in Cairo;

--and of Mr Thabo Gborio Mibharana as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho, with residence in Beirut.

IRAQI DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ALGIERS 11 MAR FOR TALKS

LD1112237 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Summary] An Iraqi delegation arrived in Algiers this afternoon on a working visit, led by Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, who was welcomed by Prime Minister Abdelghani. Talks will begin this evening.

LIBYA

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV ARRIVES, MEETS AL-QADHDHAFI

Arrival Statement

LD1111519 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, arrived in Tripoli this morning for a cordial visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to strengthen the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples.

A large popular reception was accorded to the guest Bulgarian chairman at Tripoli international airport. His welcomers were headed by the brother leader of the revolution, Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, Lt Col Mustafa al-Kharrubi and Maj al-Khuwaldi al-Hamidi.

Chairman Zhivkov made a statement to journalists at Tripoli international airport. He expressed his appreciation for the brother leader and the Libyan Arab people for giving him the opportunity to visit Libya. He said: This visit will give us the opportunity to become acquainted with the new successes and achievements scored by the Libyan Arab people and in the economic and social spheres, and in the various spheres of life.

In his statement he pointed out that this visit will provide an opportunity for us to debate all aspects of developing and strengthening our bilateral relations, which are continually developing for the good of the two friendly peoples, and also to discuss urgent international issues, world peace and the coordination of our efforts in fighting colonialism, racist imperialism and reaction to achieve peace.

The Bulgarian chairman said: Our meetings will give a new impetus to the development of cooperative relations between us. At the end of his statement he conveyed the greetings of the Bulgarian people to the Libyan Arab people and their cordial wishes for them to attain further achievements and continue along the path of progress and prosperity.

The guest chairman is accompanied on this visit by a large delegation which includes Petur Mladenov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs; Andrey Lukanov, candidate to the BCP Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Mitkhaylov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee; Stoyan Stoyanov, member of the BCP Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of mineral resources; Atanas Christo Malev, member of the BCP Central Committee and deputy minister of public health.

Talks Begin

LD1112750 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] Talks between the brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, and Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party, began in Tripoli this evening.

Participants Listed

LD1113045 Tripoli JANA in English 1906 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 11, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great al-Fatah revolution, and President Todor Zhivkov of the State Council of Bulgaria and the first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party opened their talks today and were attended by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jalloud, the secretaries for foreign affairs, liaison, oil, and heavy industry, the secretaries of the General People's Committee for Economic and Land Reclamation and Agrarian Reform, the foreign secretariat undersecretary and of the General People's Committee for Health. From the Bulgarian side the meeting was attended by Mr. Petur Mladenov, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party and minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Andrey Lukanov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Mitko Mitkov the secretary of the party committee and head of the president's office, Minister of Mineral Resources Mr. Stoyan Stoyanov, the undersecretary of the ministry of health and the Bulgarian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah.

"Closed Meeting" Held

LD1113958 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1950 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli--A closed meeting was held this evening between the brother leader of the revolution and Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH BULGARIA REPORTED

For a report on economic cooperation with Bulgaria, noting the presence of 7,000 Bulgarian specialists currently working in Libya, see the Bulgaria section of the 11 March Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

TUNISIA

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA RECEIVES ZAMBIAN SPECIAL ENVOY

LD1012034 Tunis TAP in English 1605 GMT 10 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Carthage, March 10 (TAP)--The Tunisian head of state received Monday Mr. M.J.M.K. Chisamia, special envoy of President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

Following the meeting, Mr Chisamia said he handed President Bourguiba "a personal message from his brother President Kenneth Kaunda concerning the good relations between Tunisia and Zambia." The Zambian envoy moreover noted the similitude of the policy followed by the two countries regarding the African issues in particular and international ones in general. He furthermore paid homage to the positive and active role played by Tunisia at international instances under the leadership of President Bourguiba. Mr Chisamia conferred before with the Tunisian Foreign Minister Mr Mohamed Mzali.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR STATEMENT CLAIMS VICTORY IN AMGUTTI BATTLE

LD2220956 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Saharan fighters have scored another victory in their heroic struggle against the invaders of their land. The minister of information of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] issued a military statement last night, quoting sources close to the SDAR Defense Ministry, about a new military operation by the Saharan revolutionaries on 9 and 10 March. The statement said that hardly 2 days have passed since the historic battle in Amgutti, in which the Moroccan Royal Forces suffered utter defeat, before the heroes of the Saharan People's Liberation Army waged a new offensive on 9 and 10 March on the same Moroccan garrison. The statement added that the routed Moroccan Royal Forces once again sustained losses in men and material and that the preliminary information shows that a large number of royal soldiers have been put out of action, and a substantial quantity of weapons and military vehicles have been captured, including tanks. A Moroccan Army captain was taken prisoner. The information Ministry said a more detailed account on this operation will be published in due course.

LAND APPROPRIATED FOR EXPANSION OF JERUSALEM

TA1110GT Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 Mar 00 TA

[Text] It now emerges that in the area between Nave Ya'aqov and French Hill in Jerusalem some 4,000 dunams of land have been expropriated. In this area 500 dunams are owned by Jews. It is not yet clear how the landowners will be compensated. A senior Housing Ministry source told our correspondent that Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek approved the project on the day it was submitted to the Cabinet. Kollek, however, also criticized the expropriation plan, saying the government lacked sufficient funds to pay the compensation.

This evening, the Likud faction in the Jerusalem municipality attacked the mayor for his criticism.

Jerusalem Mayor Criticizes Decision

TA1206GT Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 Mar 00 TA

[Text] An order for the expropriation of 2,000 dunams of land stretching between the French Hill and Nave Ya'aqov neighborhoods near Jerusalem has already been signed. Then the technical side of the expropriation has already been carried out. According to the plan submitted by the housing and construction minister at Sunday's Cabinet session, an additional 2,000 dunams will probably be expropriated in that area.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek strongly attacked the way in which the housing and construction minister presented the plan for the expropriation at the Cabinet session. Mr Kollek claims that this will cause serious damage to Israel's image. Here is a report by Yehuda Koz on the affair of the expropriation of lands between the French Hill and Nave Ya'aqov: [begin videotape]

This is the Jerusalem neighborhood called Shmuel Hanavi, or the French Hill. In order to tighten the Jewish ring around Jerusalem it is necessary to create a continuity of buildings between the French Hill and Nave Ya'aqov, a neighborhood located north of it. In order to create that continuity, it is necessary to expropriate lands--primarily rocky land--on which there are rather scarce Arab buildings. This principle is nothing new and the Jerusalem Municipality has had a plan to strengthen the Jewish ring around the capital for many years.

[Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek] Our plan, the one we have worked out, also calls for expropriation from Jews, who own about 400 dunams there, as well as from Arabs. At the same time, we also urged permission to build on lands on which construction was forbidden up to now to allow Arabs to build there too. This would not have hampered the continuity of Jewish settlement between Nave Ya'aqov and the French Hill, but would have compensated the Arabs for their expropriated lands.

[Koz] Throughout the years, Arab buildings have expanded between Nave Ya'aqov and the French Hill. Some argue that this construction activity has been financed by rich countries outside the bounds of the West Bank. As the years pass expropriation will be more difficult, even though a promise has been made that the Arab inhabitants who build their homes in that area will not be harmed. Members of the Jerusalem Municipality claim that Minister Dovid Levi had not consulted them before he raised the issue for discussion at the Cabinet session. Thus, for instance, the area presents difficult topographical problems, which have a different significance in Israel's economic situation.

[Keller] Only the road there will, in my estimation--since it goes through wadis and requires difficult engineering planning--relations--cost between 350 and 400 million pounds. I may be exaggerating a bit here, but not by much. Where will we get the resources? Currently progress in building is very slow in Jerusalem; not enough apartments for young couples are being built. Expropriation merely for the sake of expropriation, with no plan for the next step--I do not understand this.

[Zuc] The problem, then, is how to present things and what the government has in mind for the next stage, after the expropriation. Teddy Kollek says that in the current state of affairs this cannot be financed and that the housing and construction minister's declaration at the Cabinet session only causes damage to Israel's image.

[Keller] First of all, I assume that in a few days you will hear declarations from all the world decrying expropriation. You will be a bit more isolated. The foreign minister will be able to dismiss a few more employees because we will remain bereft of contacts with anyone any more, so that he will have a new job when he enters office. This causes a lot of tension among the Arabs. This tension would be justified if we do something afterwards, but if it is merely talk, then we have such talk daily.[end videotape]

Housing and Construction Minister David Levi refuses to comment on the statements made in this report. The head of the Likud faction in the Jerusalem municipal council, Yehoshua Matza, told our correspondent this evening that the mayor's statement strengthens Israel's enemies and encourages hostile international elements to demand that Jerusalem's boundaries be changed.

[ANN] GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ALLOW COURT TO DISMANTLE SETTLEMENTS

TA111408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 11 Mar 90 TA

[Text] The justice minister has said that if the government faces a legal situation in which the courts instruct it to dismantle Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria, it will legislate a retroactive law that will prevent such a situation. Dan'el Na'ir was answering a question put to him by Amos Hadar during the debate on the justice ministry's budget.

FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR JOINS AUTONOMY TALK

TA111757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1730 GMT 11 Mar 90 TA

[Text] The new foreign minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, will join the ministerial autonomy negotiating team. This has been agreed upon in a meeting between him and team chairman Minister Barg. Our political correspondent reports that Mr Barg updated Shamir on the details of the negotiations to date. Barg is due to talk with the Egyptian prime minister and with Ambassador Ismawi about the timetable for continuing the negotiations this evening or tomorrow morning.

Seeks to Lessen U.S. Dependence

TA121005 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 12 Mar 90 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir wants to lessen Israel's dependence on the United States. In an interview with the German paper DIE WELT, Shamir emphasized that such a dependence helps neither party. The West is convinced we are in its pocket; the Arabs can maneuver; only we have no choice, Shamir says.

The foreign minister added that the West believes it must win over the hearts of the Arabs and needs nothing to win over the hearts of the Israelis.

AFGHANISTAN

NEW MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

[KL2009] Hong Kong AFP in English 0953 GMT 12 Mar 80 KL

[Text] New Delhi, 12 March (AFP)--Afghan President Nasrat Karmal has widened the base of his Soviet-backed Khalq-Parcham government by inducting into his cabinet three new ministers and a large number of deputies who were formerly condemned by the previous Hafizullah Amin government, the PTI NEWS AGENCY reported today from Kabul.

The agency said the cabinet ministers included Mohammad Ghan Jalalar in charge of commerce, Fazal Rahim Mohmad, agriculture and land reforms, and Professor Mohammad Ibrahim Azeem, health.

In a bid to win wider acceptability of his government, Mr. Karmal also appointed several deputy ministers to the various ministries from among the 40 odd politicians, diplomats, technocrats and civil servants rehabilitated so far, PTI added.

In all, the agency said, Mr. Karmal had made over 100 new appointments including those in lower posts. The new entrants were mostly known to him during his term as a member of parliament prior to the April 1978 Revolution, it said.

PAP REPORTS CAPTURE OF EGYPTIAN MILITARY INSTRUCTOR IN KUNARHA

[LD1112032 Warsaw PAP in English 1723 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD]

[Text] Kabul, 11 March (By PAP correspondent Ryszard Plesarowicz)--Afghanistan's reliable sources announced today that an Egyptian military instructor was seized accompanying a unit of Afghan rebels in the province Kunarha, 200 km east of Kabul today. He was seized by Afghan [Army] units which have been launching operations against the rebels in the south-east of the country along the Pakistani border for a few weeks now.

The apprehension of Egyptian military instructor is the first proof of Egypt's participation in the reactionary alliance of enemies of the Afghan revolution, which is not a surprise as Cairo, contrary to Islamabad and Beijing, does not deny that it offers assistance to the rebels. Egyptian Minister of Defense Kamal Hasan 'Ali admitted in Cairo on February 15 that his country trained Afghan rebels and would supply them with arms. He said that the programme for aiding Afghanistan's anti-government forces was approved by President Anwar as-Sadat last January.

CAPTURE ESTIMATES OF SOVIET TROOP CASUALTIES REPORTED

Rebels Claim 100

[KL1112] Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 11 Mar 80 KL

[Text] Afghanistan rebels claim to have killed more than 100 Soviet troops in a 2-day battle in the eastern province of Paktia. A spokesman for the insurgents in neighboring Pakistan conceded that they had also suffered losses, but declined to provide figures.

400 Dead Since Coup

AU1114[illegible] Vienna [illegible] in German 11 Mar 80 p 1-2 AU

[Moscow correspondent Heinz Lathe dispatch: "So Far 400 Soviets Killed in Afghanistan"]

[Excerpt] Moscow[illegible] far more than 400 soldiers have been killed and about 2,000 injured in action in Afghanistan. These figures are circulating in East European quarters of the Soviet capital. There are said to have been two peaks in the casualty figures: At the beginning in December, and in mid-February.

Since that time Soviet soldiers no longer operate in small groups. They have orders to remain in the immediate vicinity of their bases. Their current task is to safeguard the strategically important roads and especially the access roads on Afghanistan's borders with Pakistan and Iran. These missions are in most cases assigned to units in regiment or at least battalion strength.

Since that system began to function there have been fewer casualties through rebel attacks through ambush.

KABUL REPORTS 'RESISTANCE GROUPS' FORMED TO ORGANIZE

AU1117[illegible] Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Mar 80 AU

[Text] In response to Babrak Karmal's speech of 30 January 1980, the citizens of Wir Mazhamon Kut have formed a resistance group in order to struggle alongside the security forces against the enemies of the homeland.

Thousands of Kabul's noble citizens have declared their readiness to form volunteer resistance groups. They have received arms and uniforms. This process is continuing.

Further Reports

AU1113[illegible] Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Mar 80 AU

[Text] In response to a speech by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, Revolutionary Council chairman and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], [words indistinct] thousands of our patriotic and noble people are forming resistance groups to defend the April [1978 Revolution].

As part of the process of forming the resistance groups, a meeting was held yesterday by many of our brave and patriotic masses, including youths, women, men, workers, peasants, employees, students [passage indistinct].

At 1500 yesterday, the volunteers held a meeting at the Istiklal secondary school where they received their uniforms. Sayid Mangal, PDPA Central Committee member and Revolutionary Council member, spoke about the conspiracies and intrigues of the counterrevolutionary forces opposed to the interests of our toiling people. He was followed by Sattar Hasan, PDPA Central Committee member, Revolutionary Council member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee's defense and justice [committee]. Hasan said: Greedy U.S. imperialists, Chinese leaders and Pakistani military circles believe [words indistinct] the party, state and government of the DRA to defend the homeland. They do not believe our patriotic and brave people are capable of striking at these traitorous elements and the [perpetrators of their vile] conspiracies. [Words indistinct] the party, state and government are today united and have not deviated.

A source has said resistance units have been organized by party representatives, trade unions, the central organization of [word indistinct] peasants, and the districts of Kabul governorate.

KABUL ANNOUNCES 11-17 MARCH MILITARY TRAINING

LD1213010 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Here is an announcement by the Kabul security force command: The respected citizens of Kabul are hereby informed that from 11 to 17 March there will be daily military training and shooting in Qargha [Kabul resort]. Similarly, experimental [activities] are taking place tonight and tomorrow night [words indistinct]. The esteemed citizens of Kabul need not worry on this account.

581 PERSONS REPORTED RELEASED AFTER INVESTIGATIONS

LD1113051 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Following the release of those who were influenced by the subversive acts of imperialist reaction and who committed acts of subversion and arson in Kabul, and on the basis of the 1 March statement of the country's security forces, 581 persons were today freed after investigations [words indistinct]. At the release of these persons, domestic and foreign correspondents and cameramen were present, and during separate interviews with a number of them they expressed their remorse and regret.

The accused persons also expressed satisfaction at the attitude of the security force, and said: If such an incident [as the Kabul unrest] had taken place under the savage Amin, not only would the participants have not been released from prison, but they would have been wiped out with their families.

The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY correspondent adds that so far, 997 persons who were accused of involvement in the incidents mentioned have been released from detention.

ADB INTERVIEWS JUSTICE MINISTER ON NEW CONSTITUTION

LD1212042 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0615 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul--The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) will celebrate the second anniversary of its revolution by proclaiming a new basic law and issuing new national symbols. In an interview with the ADN correspondent in Kabul, Minister of Justice Abdurrashid Arian said that the government intends to proclaim the "provisional basic principles of the DRA" on 27 April. By this date Democratic Afghanistan will also have its new national flag and a new state emblem.

The setting up of commissions to work out the provisional constitution and to decide on the state symbols was approved by the Council of Ministers 10 days ago. In the meantime, they have started work under the supervision of the justice minister. When the "provisional basic principles" come into force they will end the period without a constitution, which has lasted since the ouster of the Daoud regime on 27 April 1978. Abdurrashid said that the provisional constitution will remain in force until a final basic law has been passed by Afghanistan's highest legislative body--the "Grand Assembly." The election and convening of the "Grand Assembly" was not possible for the time being because of the still complicated internal situation.

INDIA

DEFENSE MINISTER: SOVIET AFGHAN PRESENCE NO THREAT

BK1209Z7 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The Lok Sabha was informed that the Soviet presence in Afghanistan does not pose any threat to India's borders. This was disclosed by Minister of State for Defense C.P.N. Singh in a written reply. He said the government is keeping a close watch on the developing situation. Appropriate measures are being taken to safeguard the territorial integrity of India.

In reply to another question, the minister said that according to information available, the press reports suggesting a buildup of armed forces on the India-Pakistan border were not correct.

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER NAVAL BUILDUP IN INDIAN OCEAN

BK1209Z9 Hong Kong AFP in English 0840 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 12 Mar (AFP)--India today expressed concern over the naval build-up in the Indian Ocean following the recent developments in the region.

Junior Defence Minister [title as received] C.P.N. Singh said that Indian Navy was being progressively modernised keeping in view the regional developments that had a bearing on the security of the country's maritime boundaries.

Answering a question in the lower house of parliament, the minister said that the naval build-up by the superpowers in the Indian Ocean "was cause of concern with regard to the security of India."

Mr. Singh, however, gave no direct answer to a further question, based on press reports, whether the Soviet Union had now deployed a record 31 warships in the Indian Ocean, 11 more than the United States.

SOVEREIGNTY EXTENDED OVER EMERGING ISLAND IN BAY OF BENGAL

BK1209Z1 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] India has formally extended its sovereignty over an emerging island in the bay of Bengal off the Sundarban coast. Named Purbasha, the hope of the east, the 2 square kilometer island may one day become one of India's biggest islands which can be developed as a tourist resort. The island is formed from the huge quantities of silt carried by the Ganges.

PARLIAMENT OPENS FOR THREE WEEK SESSION

Railway Minister Hospitalized

BK1209Z4 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The 3-week session of parliament began this morning. The Lok Sabha was adjourned for half an hour after Railway Minister Kamlapati Tripathi suddenly took ill and was rushed to the hospital. Mr Tripathi felt uneasy even as the question hour was coming to an end. He was to have presented the railway budget in the house. The doctors attending on the railway minister said that Mr Kamlapati Tripathi is out of danger and there is no cause for alarm. They said he would be kept under strict observation and has been advised to rest in bed.

Interim Budget Presented

BK1111617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpts] No new tax proposals have been made in the interim budget for 1980-81 presented by Finance Minister Mr Venkataraman in the Lok Sabha this evening. Making it clear that this is for purposes of a vote on account, he said he would come forward with a regular budget in a few weeks.

The interim budget reflects by and large the continuation of on-going expenditures and certain minimum unavoidable changes. Mr Venkataraman said they do not reflect accurately the present government's policies and programs.

The total receipts in the new fiscal year are estimated at 139,800 million rupees, while the total expenditure will be 202,150 million rupees. At the existing rates of taxation the overall budgetary gap will be 12,350 million rupees.

The budgetary deficit for 1979-80 has gone up to about 27,000 million rupees as against the original estimate 13,820 million rupees.

Mr Venkataraman blamed the 33-month Janata-Lok Dal rule for the present grave economic crisis. The finance minister said that instead of building further the strong and resilient economy which the Congress government had left behind in 1977, they had allowed it to drift through inaction and mismanagement into stagnation. And when the first test came in the form of a drought, the previous government showed the bankruptcy of its policy and failed miserably to protect the common people. He pointed out that the procurement and public distribution system which the Congress Party had built up earlier and the large stocks of foodgrains it had left came to the rescue of the previous government as well as to that of the poor people. Mr Venkataraman thanked the previous government for the small mercy they had shown in not dismantling the public distribution system completely.

He said as a result of the mismanagement of the economy in the past 3 years, there is likely to be a decline of 1 to 2 percent in the gross national product this year. Agriculture production may fall by about 6 percent, while industrial production will be stagnant or marginally lower than last year. Meanwhile, prices have risen by about 20 percent. He said that the government needs some more time to assess the damage suffered by the economy and to evolve a coherent medium-term strategy for revival and restoration of its health.

Defense Spending Increased

BK1111621 Hong Kong AFP in English 1606 GMT 11 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 11 March (AFP)--India will spend 270 million rupees (about $34 million) more on defense during the new financial year beginning April next than in the current year.

The annual budget proposals presented to Parliament today provided for an allocation of [number indistinct] rupees (4,125 million dollars) for defense expenditure as against the revised estimate of 32,730 million rupees (4,091 million dollars) for this year.

The original estimate for the year ending was 30,900 million rupees (3,862.5 million dollars).

V. 12 Mar 80 - 6 - SOUTH ASIA

INFORMATION MINISTER ON GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF MASS MEDIA

BK1112017 Delhi DDI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Replying to a question, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Vasant Sathe told the Lok Sabha on March 11 that the government cannot give up responsibility of ensuring mass media like radio and television to serve the people, particularly those in the rural areas.

He said that the purpose of mass media in serving the people can be achieved better only when it is under the control of the government. He said the government will ensure functional autonomy and there is no need for any change in the present setup of All India Radio and Television.

PTI TO WITHDRAW FROM NONALIGNED NEWS POOL

BK1112015 Hong Kong AFP in English 1431 GMT 11 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 11 March (AFP)--India's premier English language news agency PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) has finally decided to withdraw from the nonaligned agencies pool, C.R. Irani, one of its directors, said today.

He said in a statement in Calcutta that the agency had no plans to continue remaining in the pool beyond the end of this month as already decided. He was referring to some recent remarks made by Information Minister Vasant Sathe expressing hope that PTI would reconsider its decision not to continue in the pool.

Mr Sathe has said in an interview with a New Delhi newspaper last week that the government would have to consider launching a new Indian news agency for the purpose of operating with the nonaligned agency pool in case PTI was not willing to continue in it.

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER, CPI-M LEADER ON CENTER-STATE RELATIONS

BK0903154 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The state governments are bound to follow the center's directives and rules framed by Parliament. This observation has been made by Communications Minister Mr C.M. Stephen. Speaking at the meet the press program in Trivandrum, he said that the center will have to devise ways if a state disobeys the center's directive. According to PTI, Mr Stephen said the Congress-I has got a massive mandate from the people in the recent elections and as such it has to fulfill its pledges to the people. In the process the center will have to see that the state government cooperate with it in fulfilling its election pledges.

Commenting upon Mr Stephen's remarks, Communist Party of India-Marxist leader Mr Namboodiripad has said that people have given the ruling party at the center the mandate to rule for 5 years. A similar mandate has also been given to the Left Democratic Front in Kerala. This fact has to be accepted, he added. Speaking at a function in Trivandrum, Mr Namboodiripad reiterated his party's opposition to the Preventive Detention Act.

NEPAL

GOVERNMENT WELCOMES VICTORY OF ZIMBABWE PEOPLE

BK0703045 Kathmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] His Majesty's government has welcomed the emergence of Zimbabwe as an independent state with an elected government on the basis of the principles of self-determination. According to a press release of the Foreign Ministry, His Majesty's government has always shown its support to the liberation struggle of the people of Zimbabwe and raised her voice against the policy of [illegible] and racial discrimination. The victory of the Zimbabwe people, says the press release, represents a great milestone toward the total elimination of racial discrimination.

FOREIGN MINISTER S.B. THAPA ON KING, QUEEN'S VISITS

BK0701655 Kathmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister S.B. Thapa has described their majesties the king and queen's 2-week visit to the five friendly countries of South Asia and Southeast Asia as both timely and successful.

In a statement issued in Kathmandu today on their majesty's visits to Sri Lanka, Singapore, Burma, Bangladesh and India, Mr Thapa, who accompanied their majesties, said the visits had added new dimension in our bilateral relations existing with the countries visited. At the same time it had contributed to developing closer regional consensus among countries who are deeply concerned over the developments in these parts of Asia on the need for a scrupulous application in practice of the principles of noninterventions in the internal affairs of another state, nonuse of force in international relations and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, Minister Thapa noted.

In this context the need for more frequent contacts [was felt all round]. In terms of these objectives, this royal visit had been both timely and successful.

NO AGREEMENT WITH INDIA ON PEACE ZONE

BK0701617 Hong Kong AFP in English 1320 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpts] Kathmandu 6 March (AFP)--King Birendra and seven ministers returned to Kathmandu today after completing their two week visits to five friendly countries in South and South East Asia.

Nepalese Foreign Minister S.B. Thapa who accompanied the royal couple described the five nation royal visit as 'timely and successful'.

Mr. Thapa said 'Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Singapore and Burma have supported King Birendra's proposal that Nepal be declared a zone of peace'. When asked about India's attitude on this concept Thapa said 'talks on this subject are still going on with India'.

PRIME MINISTER ON REPRESSION POLITICS, TERRORISM

BK1111205 Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 6 Mar 80 pp 1, 4 BK

[Text] Kathmandu, 5 Mar--Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa has said that the national interest should be a matter of primary concern for all while taking part in the national referendum, reports RASHTRIYA SANCHAR SAMITI.

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[illegible] a mass meeting organized at Ilam Bazar on March 1, Prime Minister Thapa expressed the view that it was an occasion for all to give due consideration as to how best the nationality, national unity and the dignity of the country could be safeguarded.

Noting that it was against the character and tradition of Nepal to think of herself as a satellite of another country, Mr. Thapa said it was the duty of all Nepalese to work unitedly and follow the policy that would keep up the dignity and prestige of the country.

Giving examples how countries that came under foreign influence had jeopardized their own national interest, Mr Thapa said that the people of a small and economically weak country like Nepal should be on guard against such things.

Mr. Thapa said that the Panchayat system had been laying emphasis on national interest for the last 12 years and that not without a reason. He explained that no question was greater than the question of national independence and sovereignty.

Noting that the institution of monarchy is unique to Nepal, he said that nationalism, democracy and development were things directly linked with the institution of crown in Nepal.

Welcoming the remarks made about the importance of crown in Nepal even by those who were usually opposed to the institution of monarchy, Mr. Thapa called on all to unite and take part in the development works of the country for the upliftment of the country by choosing a system that could strengthen national unity.

Mr. Thapa called upon all to move forward hoping for better things to come in future and keep the national interest uppermost forgetting what did what in the past.

Censuring the attempts made by some people to influence the national referendum by resorting to violent tactics, he reiterated that His Majesty's government would not tolerate such acts of terrorism and hooliganism.

Noting that the government had been successfully curbing acts of terrorism in the past few months, he said that the Panchas would not lag behind to cope with terrorists in future as well.

Referring to the irresponsible remarks made by some people that they would raise arms, Mr. Thapa said the people who had raised arms had stopped doing so because they realized their folly. Noting that we have been coping with arms raised against the people from time to time in the last nineteen years he said this was nothing new and we are all used to it. Such things, he added, had never benefitted the Panchas nor would they either in future.

PANCHAYAT

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[Text] Islamabad, 12 Mar (APP)--Pakistani authorities today denied press reports that a number of senior officers had recently tried to stage a coup d'etat and had been arrested.

An official spokesman said that the officers, said to include three generals, were free and carrying out their normal duties. He said that no Pakistani officers on the active list were under detention and described the coup reports as completely false.

The reports, carried in the opposition paper MILLAT, said the coup had been planned by a number of senior officers at the Kharian military base.

Opposition Paper Report

[redacted] Text AFP in English 1956 GMT 12 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Text] London, March 12 (AFP)--Senior Pakistani armed forces officers, including three generals, failed in an attempted coup d'etat recently, the Pakistani opposition paper MILLAT reported here today.

The paper, which backed former President Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, said the coup was plotted at the Kharian military base, home of one of the Pakistan Army's main armoured corps, and which was headed by Major-General Hussain Zaheer.

MILLAT reported that Major-Gen. Zaheer, a former military adviser of President Bhutto, had been arrested along with Lec. Abbasi, of the same unit, and retired Major-Gen. Jagmal Hussain. A total of 27 other officers had also been arrested, the report said.

The armed officers, who belonged to the Bhutto opposition party, had been detained at Sihala Fort Prison, the paper said. At the same time, Deputy Pakistani Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Mohammad Iqbal, considered a leading aide of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, had also been arrested following the uprising, reports reaching here said.

Air Marshal Zafar Chaudhry, Zaheer had been commander of the Kharian base for a year, MILLAT added.

Iqbal Khan Reports Development

[redacted] Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Text] Army Deputy Chief of Staff Lt Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan is leaving [illegible] this morning on a short visit to Abottabad.

[redacted] U.S. TO WITHDRAW DIPLOMATS IF [illegible]

[redacted] Rawalpindi DAWN in English 1110 GMT 12 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Text] Islamabad, 12 March--well-informed sources said here today that the Pakistani government has asked the United States to immediately withdraw its consul general in Lahore. Diplomatic circles linked this measure with the recent reports on the abortive coup attempt to topple the government of President Ziaul Haq.

Reports from the Pakistani capital pointed out that 26 officers have been arrested for their role in the coup attempt, including three with the rank of general. It is to be recalled that Pakistani government officials have denied the reports on this coup attempt and the arrest of the officers.

V. GERMAN INTERVIEW OF ZIAUL HAQ ON MIDEAST SITUATION

[illegible] Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 10 Mar 80 pp 134-146 [illegible]

[Excerpts Spiegel-Herrmann and Heinz F. Lehfeldt undated interview with Pakistani President Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Mr President, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has created a new geographic situation and changed the power ratio in Southern Asia. It is just a few hundred miles that separate the Soviets from the Persian Gulf, and your country is suddenly a frontline state. Do you expect a Soviet attack?

Zia: As a soldier I have learned to be prepared for the worst and to hope for the best. The worst case would be a Soviet attack on Pakistan, naturally we should be prepared for such an event militarily as best we can. We are taking all precautions and preparatory measures necessary for such a case. But since I am an optimist I hope for the best.

SPIEGEL: How well are you prepared militarily?

Zia: Militarily we are not in a position at present to defy a superpower. If it were the Afghans, yes, we would have been a match for them. But if we get involved with the Soviet Union we do not stand a real chance either militarily or with respect to our equipment. Yet this does not mean that we have given up or believe that Pakistan cannot be defended. Nothing of the sort. We want and will prepare accordingly so that we will indeed have a real chance should the Soviet Union make up its mind to start something, be it an extensive military action or even just...

SPIEGEL: ...the pursuit of Afghan "rebels" into Pakistan?

Zia: Yes.

SPIEGEL: There have been some reports that your air force has already sent Soviet planes back on one occasion or even several times, planes that had violated Pakistani air space.

Zia: A very serious violation of this nature happened just today. A Russian plane--it was a transport plane, so we may assume that it was on a reconnaissance mission--penetrated Pakistani air space, was discovered and warned. I personally ordered my air force not to shoot but to allow the plane to fly back. Our fighter planes accompanied it until it crossed the border into Afghanistan. It was a Russian aircraft.

SPIEGEL: Suppose this plane had pursued and attacked Afghan freedom fighters, would you have issued different orders to your air force?

Zia: That depends. We are trying everything not to let ourselves be provoked. This was a transport plane on a reconnaissance mission. But their combat planes, too, violated our air space lately and were traced for a few miles by our radar. So far they have not behaved in a hostile way either against Pakistan or against any refugee camp. If they do, we might act differently as well.

SPIEGEL: What do you think it was that really triggered the Soviet invasion? Can Moscow conceive that the Islamic revolution might spread to the southern regions of the Soviet Union? Was it an initial step in the direction of the Gulf from which the Soviets are now separated merely by the troubled province of Baluchistan?

[Ile:] There are several reasons. To begin with, and I have said this from the very outset, the overthrow of the Daud government in April [illegible] was not a spontaneous affair. This was well thought through and happened upon the instigation by the Soviet Union. But the Soviets stated that they had no intention of intervening in Afghanistan, and the Americans were not prepared to follow our interpretation. They believed that we were painting things in the gloomiest colors just to get aid and support. In the end it turned out, however, that we were right.

[FISCHER:] Why were you so sure of yourself?

[Ile:] Because Afghanistan borders on the Soviet Union and the Russians were bound to react differently than, say, in Egypt...

[FISCHER:] ...where they allowed President Sadat to boot them out of the country in 1977 without offering any resistance.

[Ile:] Yes. But the Soviet Union cannot afford any hostile regime next door. It must have a pro-Soviet regime there. This is why the Soviets overthrew President Daud at the moment they realized that he oriented himself toward other sides as well.

[FISCHER:] Well, that was back in 1978. The Soviets claim that ultimately they were prompted to their latest action by the interference of foreign powers in Afghanistan. Naturally the omnipresent CIA is playing a role in that respect; but there is also talk of resistant activities.

[Ile:] No, that is not true.

[FISCHER:] Former Afghan President Amin reportedly was about to gradually turn away from Moscow, and you encouraged him to do so.

[Ile:] All these are brazen lies, these are excuses. None of this is true. I never met with Hafizullah Amin, but we were receptive to having talks with him.

[FISCHER:] Your chief foreign policy adviser Agha Shahi had in fact already packed his bags for his trip to Kabul...

[Ile:] ...when it happened.

[FISCHER:] ...when the Soviets intervened. What was the purpose of the trip that never took place?

[Ile:] When Mohammad Taraki took charge of the government in Afghanistan after the overthrow of President Daud I took the initiative. I went to Kabul and told him there: "Whatever happens in Afghanistan is your business, as long as it does not have any consequences to our detriment." I had been induced to do so by the number of refugees that flowed into Pakistan. Then I saw President Taraki again at the summit of the non-aligned in Havana...

[FISCHER:] ...in September last year.

[Ile:] He wanted to talk with me. He wanted us to continue our dialog. I told him that he should not worry. The Afghan foreign minister had visited Pakistan, now it was our turn. This is why I promised President Taraki that I would send my foreign policy adviser to Kabul at the proper time.

[FISCHER:] But on his return from Havana Taraki was overthrown after a stopover in Moscow. Do you believe Moscow knew that this would happen?

ILIA: Yes. Moscow knew everything. As you have learned in the meantime, Israel had a very sharp dispute with the Soviet leaders. We likewise tried to display a bit of independence--and at the very moment when he returned he was overthrown by Hafizullah Amin. Hafizullah Amin now called on us to send our foreign policy adviser. He passed via Iran and was already at the airport when we learned that it was snowing in Kabul, which is why he could not fly.

PETERS: The Soviets further claim that Afghan freedom fighters had been trained in Pakistan and that they would still be trained there. Do such training camps exist--possibly in remote mountain regions of your country, possibly not even observed by Pakistan, or without you knowing anything about them?

ILIA: No, no. We would know about that in any case. This is all wrong. We are helping the Afghan refugees merely with humanitarian means. We have made it clear to them that Pakistan cannot be a springboard for subversive actions. But I cannot prevent Afghan refugees, some of whom are possibly armed, from crossing the border to Afghanistan. I am in no position to do that.

PETERS: Why not?

ILIA: You cannot block the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. In view of the topography there you would need an immense number of soldiers. I made this offer to the Pakistanis and I made this offer to the Afghans: "If you believe that Pakistan is causing your problems, just shut off your border." They realized that this is impossible.

PETERS: Anyway, Pakistan has nothing to do with the resistance against the Soviets?

ILIA: Where did the problems for the regime in Kabul emerge? It was not in the regions bordering on Pakistan but in the interior of the country. It is not resistance, and it is not the refugees--it is the local people there who are against the regime. This is what the world ought to know. The Russians are seeking an excuse. Especially if it is a population which is against the regime. And you can do what you please--as long as the people do not make peace with the regime, there will always be difficulties. Whether greater or smaller problems are involved depends solely on the degree of support from abroad.

PETERS: Would you likewise rule out the possibility that Chinese or American war material have reached the Afghan freedom fighters via Pakistani territory?

ILIA: It is out of the question that something like this can happen without our knowing about it. If it has to be, then with the knowledge of the Pakistani Government. And the Pakistani Government does not know anything about it.

PETERS: You just told us that the Afghan freedom fighters are not allowed to launch their actions from Pakistan. Do you as a Muslim not feel obligated to help your Muslim brothers who are combating atheism in Afghanistan with all means at your disposal?

ILIA: I would surely like to. If I could I would like most to take an active part myself. But there are two important preconditions: on the one hand, we must be prepared for a retaliatory strike. And, on the other hand, we ought to be in a position to bring the struggle to a reasonable conclusion.

Let us take the example of Vietnam: How was it possible for Hanoi to wage war for all of 30 years, including 10 years against the utterly superior United States? Three reasons were decisive: To begin with they had withdrawal areas from which they could operate without any trouble. Secondly, they were supported by two superpowers, or better, by a superpower and a half, Russia and China.

SPIEGEL: Who was the half superpower?

Ilo: At the time it was China, which in the meantime has become a superpower as well. None of the superpowers ever mentioned that they supported North Vietnam; they did not say anything. Hence the three indispensable preconditions are: help from outside, withdrawal areas and, third, the determination to fight.

SPIEGEL: And none of these apply to Afghanistan?

Ilo: The Afghan refugees are determined indeed to fight, yet they do not have a strong nation behind them, which means that they do not have the necessary arms. And besides, they do not have any safe withdrawal areas.

SPIEGEL: But they probably hope to have them in Pakistan.

Ilo: Pakistan is not a safe withdrawal area. If they operate from Pakistan and the Russians hit back, Pakistan stands to lose quite a bit. This is why I am not prepared to run that risk. It simply is not true that I can create safe withdrawal areas for the Afghans.

SPIEGEL: Now, then, should the decisions be implemented which the Islamic foreign ministers conference adopted in your capital of Islamabad in late January? After all, they agreed to support the Afghan people. With what means?

Ilo: No, the decision was--and the phrasing is quite unequivocal--that the conference calls on all states and peoples of the world to support the Afghan people and to grant aid and encouragement to the refugees who have been expelled from their homeland by the aggression.

SPIEGEL: This does not sound particularly precise.

Ilo: This is called the holy war, and holy war does not mean to take up sword and shield and say: Now I shall fight against the Russians. What the resolution says is this: The Afghan refugees can be helped morally, they can be helped practically, they can be given spiritual help, they can be supported militarily--whatever is possible. We here in Pakistan consider humanitarian aid to be more possible than any other kind of support.

SPIEGEL: The new Afghan president, Babrak Karmal, has already contacted you. Did you reject his offer of talks. Why? Would negotiations not very well be the first step on the road toward a solution? With what kind of regime in Kabul would you negotiate anyway?

Ilo: We talked with President Taraki, we talked with Hafizullah Amin, we can never talk with a man who came into power only with the help of Russian tanks. I will talk with any regime which enjoys the confidence of the people and which is not supported by a foreign power.

SPIEGEL: Did Amin really enjoy the confidence of the people, was he not supported by a foreign power?

Ilo: He was supported, but that was different. The Soviet interference was not so direct. What is involved now is a direct intrusion. In the true sense of the word the government in Kabul has been overthrown by the Russians.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, the Europeans have proposed the neutralization of Afghanistan, and presumably they will discuss with you the details of this proposal. Do you deem this proposal realistic at all?

Zia: No. It is neither practicable nor realistic, because Afghanistan was not a neutral country but a nonaligned country, and there is a difference indeed between neutrality and nonalignment...

PETERS: ...which often is only highly theoretical. After all, Afghanistan was very much linked with the Soviet Union.

Zia: It is my opinion that Afghanistan's status as a nonaligned country and as a muslim state should be retained. This will work only, however, if the pressure on the Soviet Union continues. At the moment this pressure abates Afghanistan will be lost.

PETERS: Surely you are aware of what Leonid Brezhnev just recently told U.S. industrialist Dr Armand Hammer...

Zia: Yes.

PETERS: ...that the Afghan problem could be solved if the United States and Afghanistan's neighboring states could guarantee to use their influence for preventing any interference from outside. Would you accept to such a guarantee?

Zia: No. I made a counterproposal to the Russians. What I told them was this: "Withdraw your troops. If you believe that Pakistan is interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, then let us create guarantees against that. Why do we not station in Afghanistan a peace force composed of muslim states, of nonaligned states and, if you wish, also of Indian units, which will insure that there will not be any interference from outside." And when I say "from outside," then this means from the Soviet, Afghan, Iranian, Pakistani sides.

PETERS: What about a peace force from the United Nations?

Zia: Yes, it could also be supported by the United Nations. I would have no objection at all. I would even welcome it.

PETERS: According to Dr Hammer, Brezhnev further declared that "the Soviet Union would withdraw its troops immediately" if the United States would guarantee, besides, to deliver only defensive weapons to your country. Do you not consider it conceivable that the Soviets are looking for a way to back out without losing face?

Zia: I do not think that they are serious. They ought to know from their sources that so far Pakistan has not received any military support at all from foreign countries, not even from the United States. The Soviet Union need not worry that Pakistan might become a threat to Afghanistan.

What is more, the relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan have always been extremely good. We never waged war against Afghanistan whereas, on the other side, we have been forced to wage three wars against India. President Brezhnev's assertions are unfounded, they are not based on facts. I believe that what this involves is political maneuvering. They are trying to divert attention from the real events by fabricating false contentions.

PETERS: No doubt the Afghanistan crisis has entailed for Pakistan a dramatic change in the bilateral relations, for instance, with India. Do you still feel encircled by a Soviet Afghanistan and by an allegedly pro-Soviet India, now that the Gandhi has likewise demanded the pullout of the Soviets from Afghanistan?

Zia: I wish Mrs. Gandhi would support us on this point.

SPIEGEL: Did she not do so quite clearly during the visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko in New Delhi?

Zia: If she means it seriously, and if she continues to make efforts to this end, which we expect her to do, then this is quite laudable. As far as Pakistan is concerned, in the 13 1/2 years we have been in power we have pursued a policy of peaceful coexistence with all our neighbors, but above all with India, because after all, this can open new perspectives.

SPIEGEL: You congratulated Mrs. Gandhi on her triumphant election victory; you received her secretary of state for foreign affairs for "friendly, cordial, frank and useful" talks, as he put it afterwards; you even called Mrs. Gandhi by telephone during these talks. May we suppose this to be indicative of an improvement in Indian-Pakistani relations or is such a conclusion premature?

Zia: I really hope they will improve. Normalization is progressing on the basis of the Simla Agreement of 1972--in the achievement of which Mrs. Gandhi had a considerable share. As you know, the two countries came to terms in this agreement to solve the bilateral problems without the force of arms. I consider this a good thing. Personally I harbor great hopes that relations will improve.

SPIEGEL: Will you, like President el-Sadat, now launch a peace offensive after generations of war? As Sadat went to Jerusalem, will you be going to New Delhi in the near future?

Zia: I do not want to compare myself with President as-Sadat. But if it serves peace I am prepared even to go to Delhi. But unlike Egypt at the time of the as-Sadat trip, we are not in a state of war. We have very friendly relations with India and we want to improve them even further. In the spirit of such a further improvement we could also welcome the visit of Indian leaders to Pakistan. If I should be invited--which I am, by the way, I have an invitation--I will not hesitate and go to India in due time.

SPIEGEL: Do you feel safe enough to withdraw part of your troops from the Indian-Pakistani border where the greatest part of your troops are stationed, and move them to the Afghanistan border?

Zia: No. First of all you must not see the east and the west in a separate way. Pakistan's security demands a certain total of troops in a certain area. Second, even if the threat from the west has increased considerably, I am still not in a position to station more troops on the western border because no infrastructure has existed there for 32 years. As long as I do not have that infrastructure, I cannot station any troops, even if there were no threat at all in the east.

SPIEGEL: Up to now Pakistan has always refused to conclude a nonaggression pact with India. Have you changed that stance in view of recent developments?

Zia: Listen, the Simla Agreement of 1972 is practically a nonaggression pact. If both sides mean it seriously and if the Indian-Pakistani relations continue to normalize in the spirit of the Simla Agreement, we do not need an additional nonaggression pact.

SPIEGEL: Mrs. Gandhi, however, is concerned that the United States might equip Pakistan with the most modern arms which in the end you could use against India because you still have some old accounts to settle. Is that concern possibly not so unwarranted?

Zia: I believe that the statement of former Indian Prime Minister Desai is more descriptive of the situation, namely that Pakistan does not represent a threat for India. Other Indian leaders have said that a strong and stable Pakistan is much rather an advantage for India's security than a threat.

SPIEGEL: Mrs Gandhi has said that herself recently.

Zia: Yes, and I hope that Indians mean it.

SPIEGEL: At the moment, at any rate, your armed forces are not equipped with the most modern arms. What is lacking most, actually?

Zia: I want to be quite frank. Pakistan is not in a position to produce heavy equipment such as planes, tanks and large caliber guns. With regard to most of our equipment we depend therefore on foreign sources. In the recent past this was China, France and the United States.

SPIEGEL: Despite the arms embargo the Americans imposed on Pakistan after the Indian-Pakistani war of 1965?

Zia: As long as the embargo was valid we received absolutely nothing. When it was lifted, however, the United States sold us some equipment.

SPIEGEL: Right after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan U.S. President Carter offered you initial military and economic assistance worth $400 million. You turned that down with one single word: 'peanuts'--just a handout.

Zia: Because it did not correspond to our needs.

SPIEGEL: At the same time your Foreign Policy Adviser Agha Shahi flew for a day to Washington and presented a shopping list: antitank weapons, antiaircraft missiles, combat tanks, transport planes. Could you please explain to us what you really want, what you plan?

Zia: We do not plan anything [laughs]. We want to buy security for Pakistan, but we do not want to trade in the enmity of the Soviet Union simultaneously. You must keep in mind that the Soviet Union is also a power in this region now; that cannot be denied. A confrontation with the Soviet Union, therefore, would not solve my problems. I must much rather make arrangements with the Soviet Union because, as I said already, the one who swims in the sea must live with the whales.

But that ought to take place from a position of strength. Pakistan ought to be in a military position to defend its own territory. In order to do that Pakistan needs better arms than it has today. We cannot get them from China because the supply possibilities are not only quantitatively limited where really sophisticated modern arms are involved. [sentence as published] This is why I have to rely on my sources in the west, in the free world, on the United States anyway, and on France. The west Germans unfortunately do not want to give us anything.

SPIEGEL: You would probably like to have the "Leopard" tank?

Zia: As the tank fighter that I am, I consider it a very good piece of equipment--if only I could get it [laughs].

SPIEGEL: Carter's Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski visited you a few weeks ago. A delegation of the U.S. Congress was also here. All of them previously returned with the impression that Pakistan needs considerably more than $200 million in military aid. But now one suddenly hears from America that you yourself asked the American government that Congress not be involved. Why is that?

Zia: Let me repeat: Our security is involved. And since the antidote for a superpower is a superpower, it is much more important for me to obtain a few contractual guarantees. We have a bilateral agreement with the United States...

SPIEGEL: ...from the year 1959.

Zia: But its stipulations can be applied very well to today. So if the United States is seriously concerned about our security, this agreement should be confirmed once more by Congress and turned into a treaty. But the United States is more interested in starting an assistance action with $200 million. It would then mean whichever you prefer, either 20 helicopters or 12 planes or so and so many heavy guns. But what would I get in addition? The possibility of the Soviet Union. And I do not like that. Therefore, I respectfully suggested to the United States that they give us proper material, if they mean it seriously, whether it will cost $200 million or...

SPIEGEL: ...ten times that much.

Zia: Yes, and the United States ought to convince itself with regard to what we need. This is why we received Dr Brzezinski and his aides with open arms, letting them see everything for themselves. I hope they will be in a better position now to estimate what Pakistan needs. Therefore, I informed the U.S. Government: If you want to ask Congress for $200 million, forget it. But if you suggest that Congress confirm the 1959 agreement or change it into a treaty, then do so by all means.

SPIEGEL: Pakistani-American relations have seen better days, no doubt. In the fifties your country was jokingly called occasionally "the 51st U.S. state." Today that is different. The Americans cite several reasons for it--your region, Pakistan's disputed nuclear plans, just to cite two of them. How do you explain the fact that if Afghanistan had not happened, the United States would still probably be crazy with you today?

Zia: Nothing is lasting in international relations. They change, they become better or worse depending on the interests of the countries. What Pakistan needs--and still needs--is, if not material, then at least moral support from a state like the United States. This is a rather unquiet region. Somehow we had the feeling that America's interest in this region had decreased. Until Afghanistan happened.

SPIEGEL: Do you think that this was due to the sad experience the United States had in Vietnam?

Zia: It could be due to many things: Due to a quiet agreement with the Soviet Union on, say, spheres of influence, as Dr Kissinger has written in his memoirs. But it could also be that they wanted to woo India and that therefore Pakistan was ignored. And this although we were, as you called it, once considered the 51st U.S. state, although we created the bridge between the United States and China.

SPIEGEL: Yes, Pakistan had a decisive share in the preparations for and the implementation of Kissinger's secret trip to Beijing.

Zia: But once a nation has fulfilled its purpose, the others tend to forget it.

SPIEGEL: A clear question in connection with the quarrel about your nuclear plans: Is Pakistan building its own nuclear bomb?

Zia: No, we are not interested in nuclear bombs, we are not building any and we will not build any. I am interested in nuclear technology, however. I am entitled to it and I will obtain it, either legally or secretly, because only in this way can the energy demand of the future be coped with.

SPIEGEL: If we speak only of the peaceful exploitation of nuclear energy, why do you object to international controls, why don't you sign the nonproliferation agreement? Nobody would then suspect you of playing the game "If you can do it, I can do it"--if India has the bomb, I will have it also.

Zia: I do not allow us to be discriminated against. Pakistan is a small country, but we are honorable people, we have our own dignity and our own feeling of honor. Why Pakistan of all states? If Brazil, South Africa, Israel or India were to be treated the same way, I would be the first to permit an examination of the installations.

SPIEGEL: Are there deep-rooted resentments in Pakistan against America?

Zia: No, not really. But there has been disappointment and that has grown roots. The Americans disappointed our expectations when we were waging war against India in 1965 and 1971. Their inflexible and unfair stance vis-a-vis our nuclear program has disappointed us. But most of all there is deep disappointment with regard to the way in which the Americans assist us in the present situation. The people believe more and more that an election issue is involved and not real help for Afghanistan.

SPIEGEL: Do you consider everything President Carter has said to be empty phrases?

Zia: It seems so, since so far nothing has come of it. What is the good of all the great words such as "We stand up for Pakistan's security," if they are not followed by action worth mentioning? The people in Pakistan are plain, straightforward and sincere, they believe what they are told as long as the opposite does not turn out to be true. Since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan more than 7 months have passed. What has happened since which is tangible? Absolutely nothing.

SPIEGEL: You, on the other hand, do not want to permit the Americans to use Pakistani military installations or to even set up their own bases in Pakistan.

Zia: No, we have made it clear to the United States: "If you want to give this country security, you must give us the corresponding arms so that we will have a real chance to defend our country ourselves." Only if we fight for a common cause and if we are unable to defend ourselves despite sufficient arms, then naturally everybody would be welcome, then we would ask our Muslim brothers and our American friends for help if we were to get into serious difficulties.

but first Pakistan must struggle through its battles alone. If our 75 million people are not able to defend their country themselves, nobody else will be able to do it, not even the United States.

SPIEGEL: Your stance vis-a-vis the United States seems to us to be influenced by Pakistan's relatively new role as a nonaligned state. At any rate you presented your country in this way for the first time at the conference of the nonaligned last year in Havana.

Zia: It is all part of the same course. Pakistan must become a nonaligned country and not a flat state.

SPIEGEL: Maybe not all that nonaligned but closely linked to the superpower China? You yourself termed China a "corner pillar" of your policy.

Zia: China is a corner pillar of our policy, but one must differentiate here. Just for your information: I consider China a country that is really sincere. We have been dealing with the Chinese for more than 20 years, and we have come even closer to each other since 1966 as a result of Chinese economic and military assistance. But up to now China has not made the slightest attempt to bring influence to bear on Pakistan's ideology or Pakistan's internal affairs.

China is the only country that did not ask one single question in this connection when I went there for the first time. Other countries want to interfere, they want to have their fingers in everything, they want everything to be settled their way, and that usually at a high price.

China is completely different. Naturally the Chinese also pursue a purpose, but they have never interfered in our internal affairs.

SPIEGEL: They really seem to prefer to look on--such as, for example, in 1971 when you could very well have used Chinese help in the war against India. But the Chinese did not lift a finger, and they obviously did not want to become involved in the present crisis.

Zia: Yes, but that has less to do with China than with us. We did not consult China once before we became involved in the 1971 war. The Chinese indicated to us very clearly that they did not like that. But aside from that one could hardly expect the Chinese to march over the Himalayas or through the Hindu mountains to help Pakistan.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, the Afghanistan crisis has considerable domestic political consequences for you. More than half a million Afghan refugees have streamed into your country so far, and more are coming every day. Will you or can you support these refugees indefinitely?

Zia: We will help the Afghan refugees in Pakistan for humanitarian reasons and because they are Muslim brothers. We will help them forever, even if it should be at the expense of the Pakistani economy. That is dictated by my honor, particularly in this grave time.

SPIEGEL: But Pakistan itself lives from hand to mouth. Foreign currency reserves that are too low, budget deficits that are too high and foreign debts of more than $7 billion. How do you hope to get such a sinister situation under control?

Zia: It is not that sinister at all. The economy has developed positively and my reserves have increased.

[PETERS]: To how much? Do you have the latest figures?

[Ila]: I do not want to keep any secret from you: more than $700 million. And that does not include the gold reserves I have, it is only the cash. But the most important thing is that we are coming close to self-sufficiency in agriculture. Thanks to God's grace--I bow my head to the almighty--we had a record wheat harvest, a record cotton harvest, all thanks to Allah's grace and thanks to the hard work of the Pakistani peasants. Just two more similar harvests and we can really supply ourselves.

[PETERS]: Do you believe that your new German economic adviser, former Minister of Economy Karl Schiller, can make a significant contribution to the economic upswing of Pakistan?

[Ila]: I expect that. He is an expert, a very capable man. He has been in Pakistan for more than 2 weeks and has just departed. We expect him to make a most positive contribution, either as a permanent adviser or as a temporary adviser.

[PETERS]: But you are determined not to return to the old capitalist system, but much rather to continue your experiment of setting up a very special Islamic economy?

[Ila]: Islam is a very progressive religion, and it does not contradict any of the modern systems. Granted, Islam prohibits taking interest rates, but it encourages private enterprises and it encourages the people to work diligently. Pakistan is now ridding its policy of socialist tendencies, of nationalization and of state controls. We are abandoning that and turning to small private enterprises, individual competition and free economy.

[PETERS]: Many people, particularly in the West, do not consider Islam progressive, they consider it much rather a step back into medieval times. In Pakistan, for example, the hand of a thief will be chopped off. All kinds of strong-blows are beaten in public.

[Ila]: All these are ideas of Islam's adversaries. Up to now I have not had one single hand chopped off because of Islamic law, and we have beaten nobody because of Islamic law.

[PETERS]: Really not?

[Ila]: All the beating has taken place under martial law. The philosophy of the Islamic law to which we want to adapt our civilian code now is named deterrence. Law cannot eliminate the evil that exists in society, but the law can deter people from committing criminal acts.

[PETERS]: Does that not apply to every criminal code?

[Ila]: That is the way it should be. All depends on the effectiveness of the law. And I find that the Islamic punishments are more effective.

[PETERS]: Why do you consider flogging more effective? Because it humiliates people?

[Ila]: Yes and no. Under martial law flogging is first of all a corporal punishment. Because the strokes are hard, the man really is in fear. Ask anybody on the street what he would prefer, 1 year imprisonment or 15 strokes with the stick...

[PETERS]: ...and he would prefer prison?

Ila: Yes, and he would say: "Do with me what you want, but please no flogging!" On the other hand, however, the strokes are not that hard according to Islamic justice. The philosophy of Islamic justice says that next to intercession there should be humiliation, but no corporal punishment. Self-respect and honesty are more important for a man than corporal punishment.

SPIEGEL: But not even martial law has sufficed to eliminate dissatisfaction with and opposition to your regime. In this connection the strategically important province of Baluchistan is named most often. Is there a Baluchistan problem?

Ila: No, that has been inflated by Western media because of some Western interests and naturally also by some Pakistani journalists who have written their articles about Baluchistan at their desks in Islamabad.

SPIEGEL: You mean Colonel Ali who was thrown into prison for 1 year because of his Baluchistan article carried by the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW?

Ila: What is his name?

SPIEGEL: Colonel Ali.

Ila: Yes, he has been punished according to the law, but not because I did not like his article. The problem of Baluchistan, if there is any at all, is the general economic development compared, for example, with the relatively well developed province of Punjab. But that cannot be changed so quickly.

In Baluchistan there are three or four so-called Baluchi leaders who will tell every passing journalist something about communism. In fact, however, they are autocrats, chiefs of tribes who do not even know how the word "journalism" is written. The journalists, however, believe they have hit a gold mine, and they write articles about Pakistan's renegade province Baluchistan.

SPIEGEL: Is it not correct that in past years many Baluchi guerrillas have been killed, so that a flight to Afghanistan has set in? Have not several Baluchi been trained in Moscow?

Ila: That is true. In 1974 the military was used against some tribes. But since we took over in 1977, I have come to know that this was an attempt to solve a political crisis with military means. Political problems, however, should be solved with political means.

SPIEGEL: There is one more political problem. Shortly after you took over, you promised to withdraw from the political scene within 90 days. And you added: "A military government is no solution for Pakistan...It is my deepest conviction that the survival of this country depends on democracy and nothing but democracy." How come you have changed your opinion so drastically?

Ila: I have not changed my opinion. I stick to it as before.

SPIEGEL: But the 90 days ran out long ago.

Ila: They have been prolonged, not by 90 years, not even by 90 months but maybe by a few months because I believe that I must find another method to turn over power in a peaceful way. I must create an office, an institution that will maintain power and see to it that there will be stability in the country.

[FIRES]: Why do you not simply return to democracy, to free elections?

[Lia]: Unfortunately the political situation in this country is not that way. As soon as we have created a new political structure, I can either take over the rule as a politician myself, or I can hand it over to another political leader.

[FIRES]: What kind of structure do you have in mind? All the power for the president?

[Lia]: I have not yet thought it through to the end. We have just begun to practice democracy on the lowest level...

[FIRES]: ...without political parties. They are banned and their leaders are under house arrest.

[Lia]: We had elections on the basis of villages and districts. Also on the basis of districts...

[FIRES]:...and you have twice postponed national elections.

[Lia]: Yes, we have twice postponed the national elections because on a national basis we would not afford any more deviations from the chosen national route. We have 10 political parties, some of them would have been hostile to the task.

[FIRES]: Your political opponents in your country and abroad state that you are afraid of the still very strong Taliban-inspired party of former President Dulfikar Ali Bhutto. Bhutto was hanged under your regime; his ideas are now being represented by the Taliban, his widow Nusrat and his daughter Benazir.

[Lia]: We are not afraid of any political party. But we cannot admit a party that would work against the interests and the ideology of the country. Pakistan has existed for only 50 years, and we have a lot of political problems.

[FIRES]: Mr President, if it is correct what we hear here officially, namely that since the Afghanistan crisis the Pakistani of all tribes rally around their president, one can say the following: The Afghanistan crisis has saved two presidents at once, Reagan's ally Carter and Pakistan's Zia, too.

[Lia]: Well, as far as I am concerned...I don't know. But Carter's image has certainly been bolstered.

[FIRES]: Mr President, we thank you for this talk.

[ABACC] Time 1.1. Official in all TV country

[ABACC] Carried Islamic service in English 1700 GMT 9 Mar 92 AE

[Text] Spokesman of the American State Department Reuter has said discussions with Pakistan will continue and the American administration is still interested in organizing a multilateral assistance program for Pakistan. He said in any case Pakistan can still have American military equipment.

Earlier, Undersecretary of State Killer told the Senate appropriations subcommittee that if Pakistan can meet its security needs elsewhere, that is her decision. But the United States firmly supports Pakistan's security. He informed the subcommittee that no legislation will be brought to Congress in the near future for assistance to Pakistan.

[illegible] 22 Mar 80

SOUTH ASIA

[illegible] AGHA SHAHI [illegible] FOR PARIS TO [illegible] AFGHANISTAN

[illegible] Karachi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 22 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Text] Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi is arriving in Paris on Friday [21 March] where he will hold discussions with French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet on the latest developments relating to Afghanistan.

According to AFP he will also discuss with the French [illegible] the UNO plan for neutralizing Afghanistan. Mr Shahi's visit [illegible] at the invitation of Foreign Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Olivier Stirn.

TRANSIT TRADE WITH AFGHANISTAN 'PRACTICALLY' HALTED

[illegible] Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1200 GMT 22 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Text] According to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, transit trade between Pakistan and Afghanistan has practically stopped due to the internal situation in Afghanistan.

The agency says the Pakistan Government continues to provide unhindered transit facilities destined for Afghanistan but Afghan-exported clearing and forwarding agents are not picking up these goods once they reach Karachi. Goods for Afghanistan are not being loaded on railroad cars allocated to carry them from Karachi to Peshawar. Similarly, goods destined for Afghanistan from overseas are piling up at Peshawar city and Landikotal rail stations as Afghan authorities are not picking them up. The main reason for this is that there is no security for the movement of these goods by road.

FINANCE MINISTER REVIEWS ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

[illegible] Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Mar 80 [illegible]

[Text] Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaque Khan has said the current fiscal year is expected to close with a little over 6 percent rise in the gross national product indicating a significant increase in the GNP for the third successive year. He was giving a review of the existing state of financial economy while presiding over the annual meeting of the advisory council of the financial division in Islamabad today.

He said the heartening feature was that the value added in agriculture was anticipated to go up by 7.2 percent in 1979-80 compared with the plan target of 5.4 percent. He said cotton production registered an increase of about 25 percent over the output in 1978-79 and the size of the rice crop was expected to be satisfactory. However, the sugarcane crop was not better than the last output of the previous year.

About the manufacturing sector, he said the likely 9.2 percent to 9.7 percent growth rate of value added in large-scale manufacture will fall substantially short of the annual target of 8.1 percent. This will take place in the textile mill sector and sugar production. However, the plan targets regarding vegetable ghee, cosmetic soda ash, cigarettes and petroleum products will be achieved.

The finance minister informed the council that exports have emerged as the leading sector in the economy. The export earnings increased during the current fiscal year and they are expected to increase by nearly 25 percent while imports by only 16.5 percent by the end of the fiscal year.

about the price situation, he said because of the vigilance exercised by the government, the constraint during the first half of the present fiscal year was moderate and the level of inflation was contained to a single digit.

Dr Ehsan Ikhaque Chak said however that the balance of payments situation was a source of serious concern to the government. It was because of the rising oil import bill and the upturn in prices of various other imports. He said the national labor policy, to be announced shortly, will provide for achieving better labor productivity through various means. The finance minister emphasized the need for a higher level growth oriented savings and called on the private sector to associate itself with developmental efforts unreservedly.

In the plenary session meeting, the participants put forward a number of questions to improve the economic performance.

[illegible] AFGHAN REFUGEES, RELOCATION PLANNED

Text] [illegible] Peb. [illegible] one of the Afghan refugees, presently camped in the NWFP and Baluchistan, will be shifted to parts of the Punjab and Sind, THE MUSLIM learnt from official sources here today.

The government, it is said, intends to shift a fairly big number of refugees from NWFP to the areas of Attock, Mianwali and Sibbi in Punjab and to upper parts of Sind from Baluchistan.

At present, there are nearly half a million refugees in Pakistan. Most of them have taken refuge in the tribal agencies and some parts of the settled areas of the NWFP and Baluchistan. In Baluchistan, a large number of the refugees are kept in the areas of Nuqi, Qaidabad and Chaman. While in NWFP a number of camps are also located at Jala Ghail, Kohat, Peshawar, Mardan and Dir.

The decision to shift some of the Afghan families to other parts of the country was taken to ease the administrative difficulties which are being faced by the two provinces. Secondly, it was also proving quite difficult for the government to transport all the necessary items being donated by the foreign governments for the Afghan refugees to the remote tribal agencies.

Another consideration was lack of adequate arrangements in some parts of the two north-western provinces to protect refugees from the cold winter.

They were then sent to the areas in the lap of silent mountainous regions. It was also thought that if the refugees were allowed to remain in such conditions in the remote parts, epidemics may break out in the camps.